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THE CURRENT WEEKLY

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H. H. ONCE AGAIN

Hidayatullah's Judgment Was His Farewell Gift To The Nation

By D. F. KARAKA

LAST WEEK, Monday, December 14, the Supreme Court delivered its momentous judgment in what is generally known as the Princes' Case. In a nutshell, the Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court, consisting of eleven judges, gave a 9 : 2 clear verdict striking down the President's "Midnight Order" derecognising the whole Princely Order and depriving it of its Privy Purses and privileges.

The words, "Midnight Order", were those of **Chief Justice Hidayatullah** and, according to the **Times of India's** front page of December 17, they **"irked Mrs. Gandhi"**.

And so they should have. Yet these were not the only words of the various judgments delivered which, in dignified judicial manner, indicated the Supreme Court's very decisive verdict of the illegality which had been committed by the Government of India over the signature of President Giri.

Not often does a Court, and in this instance the supreme judiciary of our country, pass such scathing strictures and such forthright directives, although couched in the highest traditions of the law, against the highest Executive Authority of the land, the Government of India.

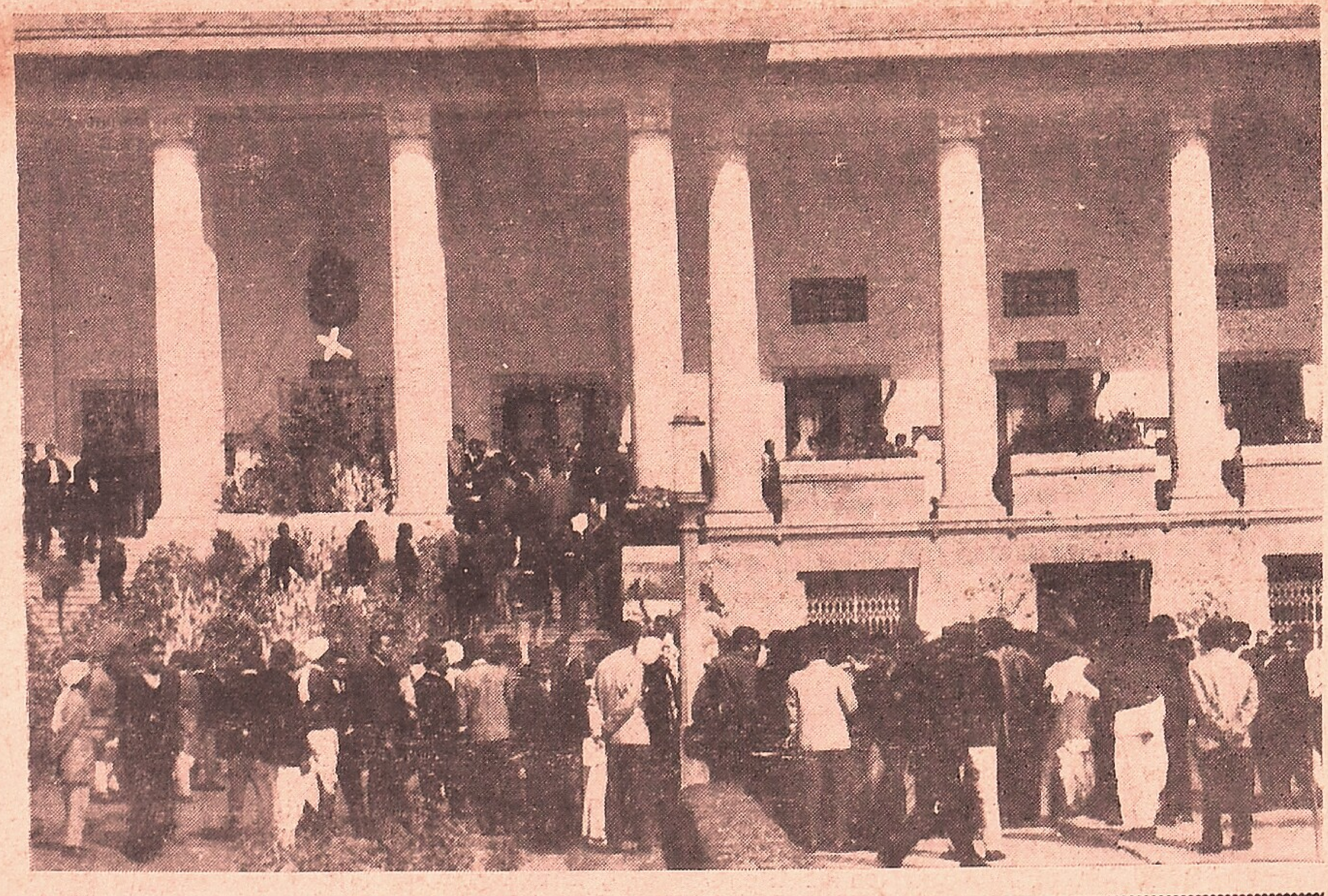
As **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh** said in the Lok Sabha: **"If the Government still had an iota of prestige, it should resign."** (Times of India, Dec. 16).

In Lucknow, the BKD Chairman, **Mr. Charan Singh**, also demanded the immediate resignation of **Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.** He said that it was no ordinary decision of the Government that had been invalidated (**Indian Express**, Dec. 16).

What Dr. Ram Subhag Singh should know, from experience, is that the present Government led by Mrs. Gandhi does not

(*Continued on page* 4)

Hidayatullah
"Midnight Order"



Crowds outside the Supreme Court anxiously await the verdict on the Privy Purses issue. White cross-mark (x) indicates the room where the historic judgment was delivered.

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The donation came in the shape of a Demand Draft on a well-known bank.

What a pleasant surprise that

(*Continued on page 25*)

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Angry M.Ps Demand Govt.'s Resignation

NEW DELHI: With 1970 drawing to a close, the winter session of Parliament came to an end on December 18 with talks of a mid-term poll in February 1971 still buzzing, despite the Prime Minister's denial that she was contemplating any such step at present.

The closing week of Parliament was dominated by a discussion in both Houses of the Supreme Court's judgment declaring the order of derecognition of the Princes as ultra vires of the Constitution, and of the law and order situation in troubled West Bengal. Frayed tempers and angry speeches marked the proceedings, when the Speaker announced this on December 15 having received, during zero hour, several notices asking for a discussion of the Supreme Court decision even before the full judgment had been delivered.

Amidst repeated interruptions and shouting, the leaders of the Parties represented in the Lok Sabha clarified their position and the impact on the House was of a wide divergence of opinion, ranging from congratulating the Supreme Court on its being a guarantor of freedom, and intemperate demands against the judges, most of which had to be expunged or were drowned in the uproar against the aspersions cast on the judges.

Mr. S. N. Dwivedy (PSP) made his Party's position clear by saying that it had always demanded the abolition of the Princely privileges and, as a result of the Supreme Court decision, the Government should bring in another Privy Purses Abolition Bill and pass it in the House in one day.

The leader of the Jana Sangh, **Mr. Atal Behari Vajpayee,** thought that the Supreme Court had given a slap to the Government.

Among others, Professor **Ranga** demanded the resignation of the Government.

The leader of the Opposition, **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh,** repeated the demand for resignation and congratulated the Supreme Court on its decision, for "even good ideas are made bad by the callousness, inefficiency, incompetence and impatience of the Government."

The opposite view was expressed by MR. CHANDRAJIT YADAV (CONGI). Marxist M.P. GOPALAN, who favoured a change in the Constitution, and CPI Member HIREN MUKERJEE, declared that India would never agree to be overshadowed by a judicial body, as far as the wishes of the people are concerned. He asked the Prime Minister to appeal to the country on this issue, or relax the rules to bring in fresh legislation on this matter during the current session.

The DMK leader, **Mr. Anbazhagan,** felt that the Supreme Court had turned down an executive decision and a fresh bill should be passed in the current session derecognising the Princely Order.

Mr. Madhu Limaye blamed those in charge of the Presidential Ordinance and complimented the Supreme Court for protecting the people's rights.

The Prime Minister intervened briefly in the Lok Sabha on December 15 to say that the judgment was still being delivered. In the Rajya Sabha on December 16 she faced constant nagging by those who obviously enjoyed her discomfiture. She was dealing with a Call Attention Motion on the Supreme Court's decision.

Week in Parliament

Reacted sharply

The Prime Minister reacted somewhat sharply to the observations made by some MPs on the advice of the Attorney-General and the midnight order issued by the President when he was abroad. She took full responsibility for Government's decision, and added that laws and the Constitution could be changed, for the "rights of some people cannot be suppressed for the rights of some others".

Mrs. Gandhi maintained that the decision of the Supreme Court was not a defeat for the Government, but just an obstacle in the march towards progress.

The situation in West Bengal continued to exercise MPs last week through questions, through a Calling Attention Motion on the attack in Calcutta on **Mrs. Parimal Ghosh** and her son, and a full-dress debate arising out of a resolution moved by Marxist **Jyotirmoy Bosu** asking for a repeal of the legislation enacted to deal with the extremist activities in West Bengal.

This resolution was lost by an overwhelming majority, but the causes that lay behind the violence in West Bengal differed widely from Party to Party and from speaker to speaker. To that extent, the task of **Mr. K. G. Pant,** who opposed the repeal of the punitive legislation, was easy, because the extreme views expressed by some members were countered by equally strong views held by others. **More than one MP asked for the recall of the Governor of Bengal as a solution, but the Government spokesman did not respond.**

Mr. Pant made two admissions—that the offending acts will be valid for the duration of the President's Rule in West Bengal and for a year after that unless of course they are repealed by the State Government. He showed concern at the incidents of violence during the last few months, the loss of 100 lives and of 45 police personnel.

Mr. Balraj Madhok (Jana Sangh) said that apart from the recall of **Mr. Dhavan,** Bengal can be saved by throwing out this Government.

Mr. Randhir Singh (CONGI) wanted to fix a time limit for an improvement in the situation, but Professor **Hiren Mukerjee** said that the police was fomenting violence and voiced his "total and irrevocable opposition" to the punitive measures.

PSP member **Samar Guha** likened the present situation to a conflict of the "democratic bullet versus the insurrectionary bullet". To the charge made about the excesses of the police, his answer was that if a comparison was made between the excesses of the Marxists and the Police, he knew which brutality weighed more.

Former Defence Minister KRISHNA MENON made one of his rare speeches, by denouncing the acts as a repetition of the Rowlatt Bill, for "violence cannot be put down by greater violence". It was his view that violence by the State and political parties was not evenly matched.

The high prices of drugs and medicines was the subject of a discussion in the Lok Sabha on December 14, when Jana Sangh member **Kanwarlal Gupta** led the attack against high prices. Swatantra MP **Lobo Prabhu** traced the causes to the Government's erratic policies, hasty decisions, the high cost of the new system and rising taxes.

Triguna Sen in a tight corner

Dr. Triguna Sen, who appeared to be in a difficult corner, pleaded that this was only the first phase of the exercise to bring down drug prices. The second would come after the current study of drug prices by the Bureau of Industrial Cost.

Question Hour last week revealed that for its new building in New Delhi, the Press Trust of India has been sanctioned a loan of Rs. 55 lakhs, which is in addition to another Rs. 25 lakhs from one of the nationalised banks. It was also stated that certain allegations of misuse of funds by the General Manager of the PTI and contractors are receiving consideration.

The thaw in Sino-Indian relations, reported some weeks ago, has presumably frozen with the onset of winter. According to a reply in Parliament, China has resumed its anti-India propaganda. India is charged with "expansionism" and China plays up news of strikes and demonstrations in our country.

A low cost valve for brain surgery, developed at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology also of New Delhi, will result in the saving of approximately $37,000 to $75,000, depending on the requirement of such valves. The imported valves cost from $75 to $150 each, as against a cost of about Rs. 20 each for the raw material used in the indigenous valve.

The Railway Minister, **Mr. Nanda,** claimed, in an answer to a question, that the average rate of passenger fares on Indian Railways is the lowest in the world. According to the figures he gave, the rate per kilometre was the highest on Swedish Railways, at 15.57 paise, with slightly lower fares on USA Railways at 15 paise and those of West Germany at 14.95 paise. The average rate on Indian Railways is only 2.46 paise. It would be worthwhile comparing India's per capita income and the standard of comforts provided on Indian Railways with those in the other countries.

The feeding standards of animals in Delhi's zoo was the subject of a question in the Lok Sabha. It was stated that the schedule of diets is based on the schedule of world famous zoos. The diets are changed from time to time to avoid monotony and, keeping in view the age and other requirements of the animals, a committee of experts checks every morning the quantity and quality of the food served.

CONGI's Weakness In U.P. Exposed

By Our Correspondent

LUCKNOW: The Samyukt Vidhayak Dal Government—a coalition of five parties of the CONGO, B.K.D., Jana Sangh, S.S.P. and Swatantra—won in the first trial of strength on the floor of the State Legislative Assembly.

The division was sought by the leader of the C.P.I., **Mr. Govind Singh Negi,** a prominent spokesman of the combined opposition of CONGI, C.P.I., C.P.M. and Independents in the State Assembly.

Mr. Negi had sought the division of the House on an amendment to the U.P. Land Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1970, tabled by **Shirish Chandra Agarwal,** a CONGI member of the Assembly. After the Amendment was declared lost in a voice vote, Mr. Negi and some others demanded a division and lobby voting on the Amendment.

The Amendment was declared lost by the Chair by 123 to 226 votes. This CONGI combination conscious of their minority in the House had so far been avoiding any division of the House and had been quietly propagating their claim of the majority and their strength to topple the Government any day they desired.

But the leaders got the first taste of the false publicity that they had been carrying on since the session of the Assembly started. Their followers believed in their publicity and thought that it was a proper time to demand the division of the House and prove that the Government did not enjoy the confidence of the majority of the House.

These legislators who constitute the rank and file of the CONGI combination did not hesitate in demanding the division and found out the truth. They saw that they had only 123 members with them in a House of 426.

Till recently it had been propagated that a large number of the B.K.D. and the CONGO legislators would vote against the Government and would pave the way for ushering in a CONGI-led government in the State.

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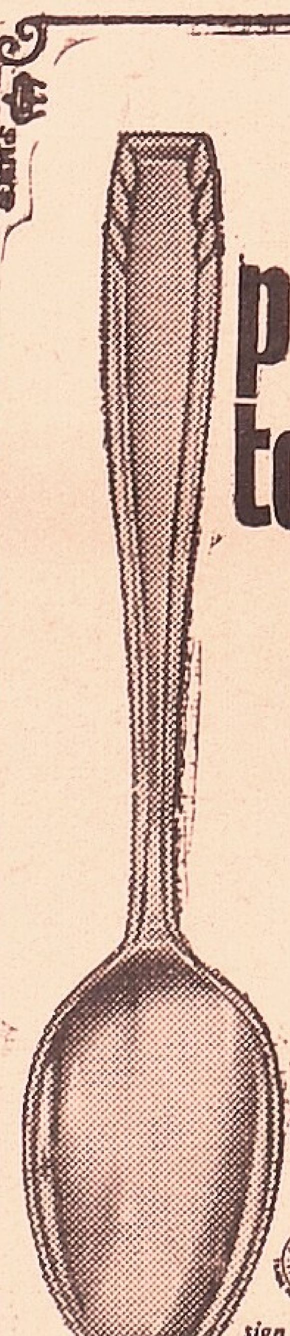

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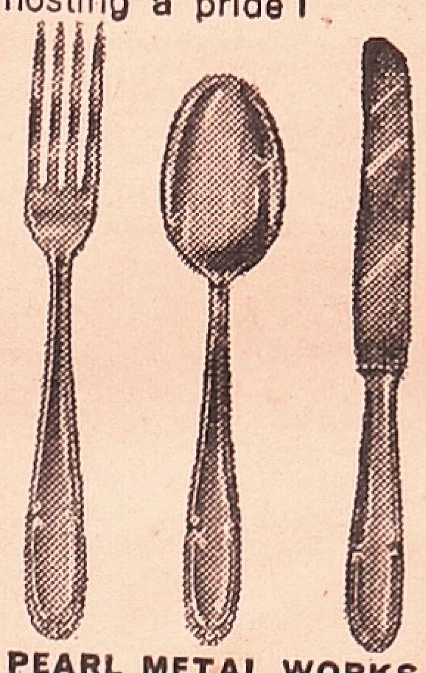

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Mrs. Sharda Mukerjee, M.P. ready to expose

Union Minister and well-known Bombay lawyer in Rs. 100 Crore Foreign Exchange Alleged Violation

From Irfan Khan

NEW DELHI: A high-ranking Minister of MRS. GANDHI's Government is reported to be involved in one of the country's biggest foreign exchange scandal, the particulars of which may be disclosed very shortly. It is said that this Hon'ble Minister's name figures in documents stated to be of an incriminating nature, which were believed to be seized by the Enforcement Directorate in Bombay last June, after a raid on the premises of a well-known Bombay lawyer.

According to these documents, foreign exchange worth Rs. 90 crores was earned and deposited in a foreign bank through the illegal export of silver to Dubai by influential and well-connected people, including the Hon'ble Minister referred to above.

MRS. SHARDA MUKERJEE, M.P. (CONGO) referred to the scandal in the Lok Sabha on December 15, while speaking on the situation in West Bengal. She alleged that incriminating documents said to have been found in the possession of this Advocate showed that about Rs. 90 crores of black money were transferred to a Swiss bank through the illegal export of silver smuggled to Dubai.

Silver converted

In Dubai, it is said, the silver is converted through normal channels into foreign exchange. Thereafter, the foreign exchange is transferred, again through normal channels, to accounts in a Swiss bank, the name of which is said to appear in the documents seized by the Enforcement Directorate.

According to Mrs. Mukerjee, the transfer of such a large sum has not been done in one transaction. Many people are involved in it and payment has to be made in such a transaction all along the way.

The scandal should have caused a flutter in Parliament soon after June, when the Enforcement Directorate in Bombay is reported to have raided this leading Bombay Advocate's office and residence. News of this alleged scandal is, however, said to have been suppressed because it would have brought great discredit to Mrs. Gandhi's Government, to whom the Hon'ble Minister belonged and belongs.

At that time the Enforcement Directorate came under the Finance Ministry, which was in the charge of Mrs. Gandhi. Later, when she handed over Finance to **Mr. Y. B. Chavan,** she retained the Enforcement Directorate within her charge.

Nothing was heard of the scandal until Mrs. Mukerjee mentioned it in Parliament last week.

Mrs. Sharda Mukerjee

The addresses of the Bombay Advocate at which the raids were made are said to be available from the documents seized.

According to the Enforcement Directorate sources, a close relative of the Advocate resides abroad, who assists in handling the transfers of foreign exchange at the other end.

Most incriminating is said to be a letter dated November 18, 1969, purported to have been written by the Bombay Advocate to the Manager of a foreign Commerce bank in Zurich. It is said the letter asked the bank Manager to please transfer £40,000 sterling from his account No. 705336 to the account of a certain individual (named in the letter), whose account number is 706529. Certain code words are used for both accounts, in addition to the numbers given. These, for the present, we refrain from publishing.

Another allegedly incriminating document is said to be a letter written in French from a Swiss bank to pay £1.5 million as commission on the transfer of a larger amount of £55 million sterling.

The Story

The story, as constructed with the help of these incriminating documents, is that certain influential people in India pooled their black money to buy silver, which was later smuggled out to Dubai, where it was sold and the foreign exchange earned thereon legally transferred, via London and Hong Kong, to coded accounts in a Swiss bank.

The name of the Swiss bank, as also the banks who effected the legal transfers en route to Zurich, are said to be available to the Enforcement Directorate.

The commission referred to is said to have been earned by the Bombay Advocate who is believed to have been largely responsible for effecting and conducting the deal between India and the Swiss bank.

In all, foreign exchange of over £100 million is said to have been earned by this alleged illegal deal.

Mrs. Sharda Mukerjee, M.P., is reported to be determined to expose this scandal. Whether she will have an adequate opportunity to do so is yet to be seen.

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Centre's decision on oil refinery

Sukhadia disappointed

By Our Correspondent

JAIPUR: From New Delhi, MR. SUKHADIA has returned highly disappointed and frustrated this time. Rather unusual, Mr. Sukhadia made known his strong views against the Centre to newsmen on his return.

He said there is no justification in giving the proposed oil refinery for northern India to Faridabad in Haryana when Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan has been strongly favoured by the Union Ministry of Petroleum's Technical Committee. This politics of obliging Haryana's **Bansi Lal** and ignoring the country's interests should not be tolerated.

Mr. Sukhadia also announced that he is sending protest letters to Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Chavan, registering his strong views on the matter. **Dr. Triguna Sen,** Union Petroleum Minister, would also be sent a protest letter.

The Chief Minister came to know in New Delhi that the Technical Committee found Sawai Madhopur as the most suitable location for the refinery. The reason is that this place is nearest to the Kandla port and is centrally located on the broadguage line. Because of its close proximity to Kandla port, comparatively less expenditure will be made on laying the pipelines.

CURRENT learns that the CONGI MPs from Rajasthan have been asked by Mr. Sukhadia to get New Delhi's decision reversed in favour of Rajasthan. They will soon meet Mrs. Gandhi to tell her how strongly Mr. Sukhadia has felt about the decision.

But Mrs. Gandhi, according to reports, is not bothered about what Mr. Sukhadia feels for she knows that he has only the backing of at the most 12 MPs in the Lok Sabha.

And in 1972 or earlier the CONGI leadership is not sure of winning the number of seats it won in 1967 when the Congress was united. To what extend the CONGI will suffer in Rajasthan during the next elections only time will show, but one thing is certain that this State will get a Government formed by the opposition parties.

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President does not have 'paramountcy' of the Grand Moghul or of the British Crown

(*Continued from page* 1)

have even an iota of self-respect.

The precision with which the Supreme Court slashed this Executive Order may be judged from the fact that the directive of the majority was the issue of a **Writ of Mandamus,** a remedy not too frequently resorted to by a Court. **When this Writ is issued against the country's supreme executive, the invalidity which was pronounced on the President's Order must have stunk in the legal nostrils of our highest judiciary.**

"We order"

"Mandamus" is a Latin word meaning "We order". The Writ of Mandamus is, therefore, a most drastic remedy which the Supreme Court gave to the petitioners, who were the former rulers of the Indian princely States. To defy a Writ of Mandamus would involve the highest Contempt of Court. No one would dare defy it.

We have been told in the press that the Government is studying the Supreme Court judgment "AND ITS IMPLICATIONS". It will not need any special legal knowledge to impress upon the members of our present Government that the implications of the judgment are that the Supreme Court has, with the Writ of Mandamus, ORDERED the Government to restore the Princes to their former status and privileges, as if the Presidential Order never existed at all.

Utter incompetence

That the Law Ministry should have reduced the Government to such a pass, is evidence of the utter incompetence of those whose function it is to advise the Government on such important legal matters.

It is not as if it was some slight difference of interpretation; all through the hearing, the pummelling which **Mr. Niren De,** Advocate General of India, received from the Bench should have made this high official of the Government retire from practice for the rest of his life. **Even the arguments of a junior Advocate in a Small Causes Court have seldom been brushed aside as the Supreme Court did the arguments of Mr. Niren De.**

Nor did the last moment attempted patch-up job of **Mr. Kumaramangalam** make any difference to the clear thinking of the majority of the Constitutional Bench, which came to the decision that the Presidential Order derecognising the Princes was *ultra vires* of the Constitution.

As if the hammer blow of the Writ of Mandamus was not enough, the Government's humiliation was complete when the Supreme Court awarded costs to the petitioners!

So that the verdict of the majority of the Supreme Court in the Princes' Case was not a verdict on any legal quibble or interpretation of the rights of the Princes under the Constitution; **it was a sledge hammer blow to the present Government, a glorious triumph of the right of the Indian citizen and the rule of law.**

The Supreme Court's judgment, particularly that of Chief Justice Hidayatullah, as also the majority of the judges, clarified some important points:

(1) That neither the paramountcy of the Grand Moghul who could give 'subedarships' to his Generals as he pleased, nor the paramountcy of the British crown has descended upon him (the President of India).

(2) The Chief Justice said that the President did not have the power to abolish the institution of Princes as long as any claimant existed and that purses were property, since the Constitution made their payment obligatory. **Mr. Hidayatullah pointed out that when paramountcy lapsed, it did not fall on the shoulders of the Indian Government.** The right to recognise the ruler from out of several claimants was not an act of paramountcy.

He further clarified that it was not arbitrary power which made the conferment of rulership a gift from the Crown.

(3) The majority judgment, written by **Mr. Justice Shah** on behalf of himself and six other judges, states **that it is difficult to conceive of the Government of a democratic republic exercising against its citizens "paramountcy" claimed to be inherited from an imperial power!**

The judgment goes on to state that the power and authority which the Union (of India) may exercise against its citizens and even aliens, springs from and are strictly circumscribed by the Constitution.

Not authorised

Paramountcy, with its brazen-faced autocracy no longer survived the enactment of the Constitution, the majority judgment says. Under our Constitution, an action not authorised by law against the citizens of the Union cannot be supported under the shelter of paramountcy.

The judgment, therefore, points out that the rights of the Princes as citizens of India are safeguarded under the Constitution and that the Princes do not exist at the mercy of a nebulous paramountcy, which Mr. Niren De appears to have claimed on behalf of the Government and the President.

These are some of the most important points that have emerged from the various judgments of the Supreme Court. **The judgment of Chief Justice Hidayatullah was his parting gift to the nation. A day or two after he delivered it, he retired from his high office with the applause of democratic-minded people still ringing in his ears.**

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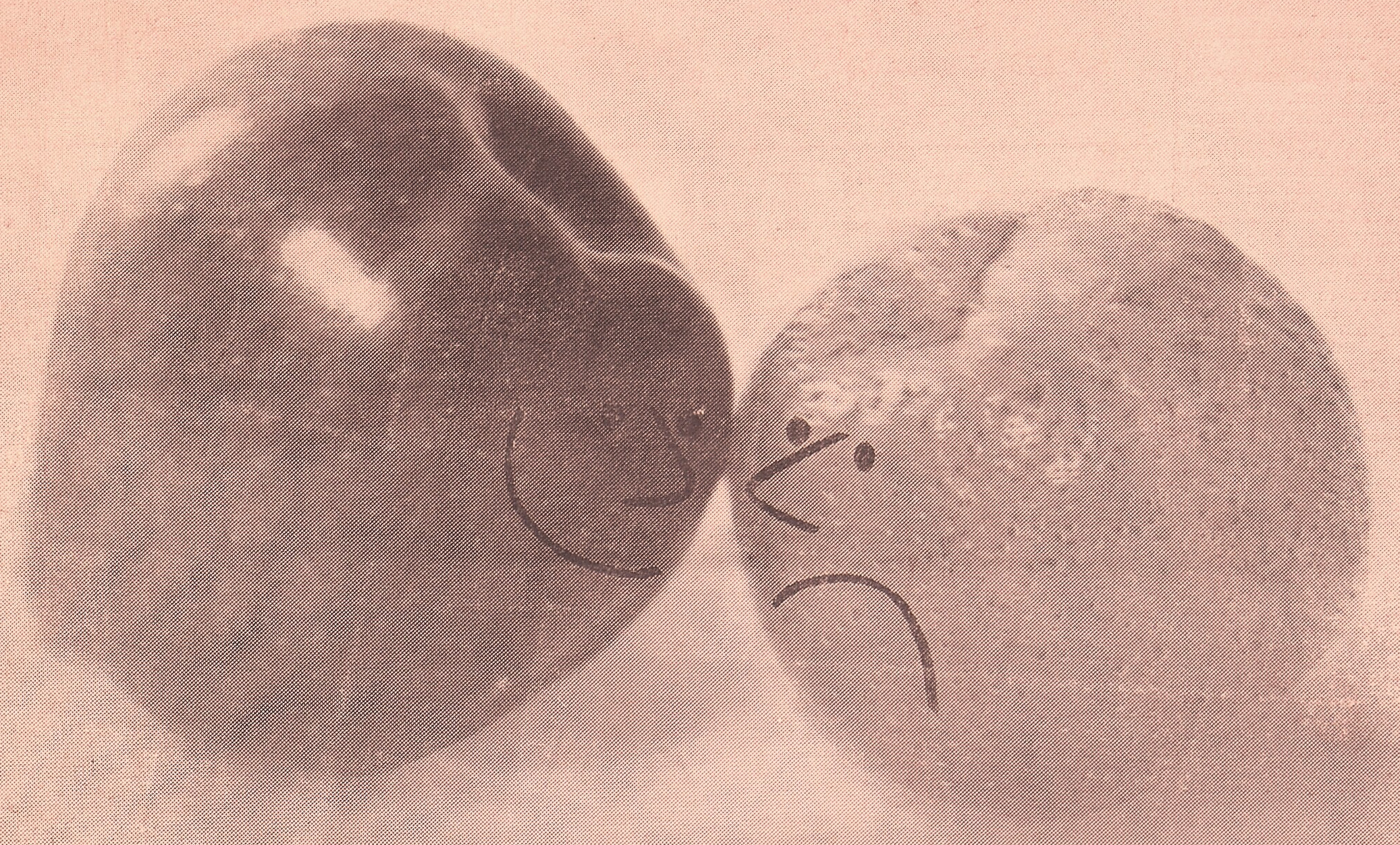

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New 'Portfolio' For CONGI M. P. Ministers

By Our Correspondent

BHOPAL: In Madhya Pradesh all the members of the State Cabinet (CONGI) are busy campaigning for the PCC elections.

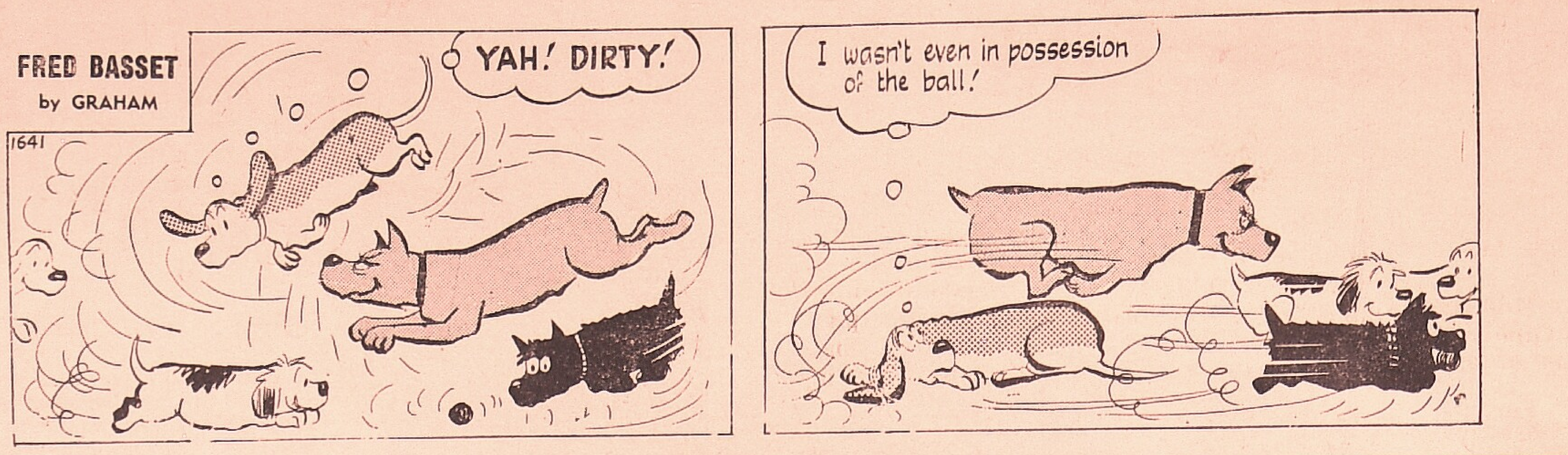
It is learned that the "super boss" Chief Minister, S. C. SHUKLA has asked all the ministers to work hard to capture the PCC. He has also warned them, that if any minister wants to support the other group in the PCC elections, he will have to give up his Cabinet post.

This move to capture the PCC at any cost has created a stir among the dissidents, particularly in the **D. P. Mishra** group; Mishra is a member of the Central Parliamentary Board.

All the ministers and Deputy ministers, forty in all, have been allotted different districts. They go on official tours to prepare for the PCC elections. They are using official machinery to win over the district leaders to their side by distributing various favours. Almost all the departments are appointing committees at State or district levels, Congressmen are flattered, given status and financial help in the form of allowance. The target of Mr. Shukla is the Mishra-group. He is planning to eliminate this group.

This has given rise to various rackets and has given a fillip to large-scale political corruption in the State.

It is learned that the few ministers who tried to work for the other group in the party, have been informed from the Cabinet. Thus the CONGI Ministers in M.P. have an additional portfolio to their credit, "the party elections" portfolio.



Naxalites Foil Police Plans In M. P.

By Our M. P. Correspondent

RAIPUR: Only a few months back after the death of a Naxalite leader in the police operations in Andhra, the Andhra Government had loudly claimed that it had succeeded in eliminating the Naxalites once for all. The M.P. Government also made similar claims.

Despite all these tall claims the Naxalites not only abound in Andhra and South Madhya Pradesh but this region is going to be the centre of their operations like West Bengal.

The Naxalities are not only active in this area but they almost succeeded in having a big 'get together' somewhere in Andhra. Recent incidents have revealed that the Naxalities are well-organised and have a good network, which helped them to foil the police plans to arrest all the top Naxalites.

The police has been very vigilant in West Bengal and Andhra against the Naxalites. The latter had planned to set up a big den for them in the thick forests of the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh. The Naxalites finally organised a big conference of all the top Naxalite leaders of Andhra and West Bengal at Pusguppa, on the border of Madhya Pradesh and Andhra states. The conference was to be held for three days and among other subjects it was to decide on its shelter cum operation den at Bastar and plan further strategy for the Naxalite operations in different States.

Alerted M. P. Police

The Andhra police however came to know of the Naxalite Conference and it alerted the M.P. Police. The M.P. Police and the Andhra police actually set a net of the Intelligence people who checked every train and bus going towards Pusguppa, rounding up the Naxalite leaders. The original information was that the Naxalites would be coming from W. Bengal and other Nothern States through Madhya Pradesh, via Raipur, Jagdalpur.

The Naxalites of W. Bengal and other States got advance reports of the Police plan and all of them changed their original plans of journey to Andhra. They changed their route and instead selected complicated routes from Andhra. The Naxalites did not meet at Pusguppa. Apparently they knew of the Police plans of raid and combing of the entire border of M.P. and Andhra. Pusguppa is in the Charla circle of Andhra which is close to the Konta circle of the Bastar district of Madhya Pradesh.

The Naxalites did not meet at Pusguppa but noone knows whether they met or not. Since a number of Naxalites are reported to have reached Andhra, it is presumed that they did meet somewhere else in that State.

The CONGI bosses of M.P. and Andhra, still maintain that the Naxalites are no threat to their States, but the Police bosses of the two States are not prepared to take lightly the Naxalite nuisance in their respective States and joint plans for operation and combing are being made by the Police bosses of the three States, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra and Orissa.

The Police has set a big net of wireless stations, checkposts etc. in the thick forests of Bastar district to foil any attempt of the Naxalites to make it their shelter cum operation den but this incident reveals that the Naxalites too are equally organised. They could not only plan such a big 'get together' of their top leaders but could conveniently change the venue of the conference and alert their leaders against the Police on the leakage of the original plan.

Is this your first copy of CURRENT ? Make sure it's not the last

Next Week

The Stars and You

by DAVID SAXBY

(December 27 to Jan. 2)

CAPRICORN (December 21-January 19): Likely to be a period which increases enthusiasm for your plans. A good deal of adjustment is indicated, domestically and otherwise. It probably causes a friendship to be dropped. Against this is the production of a new relationship from some sort of social occasion.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18): After mid-week some slacker trending operates for awhile. You will be sorting out an issue. This brings success at once. But you need care in handling work transactions and any domestic matters that at this time have discussion. Defer decisions on any such matters now.

PISCES (February 19-March 20): Trends are rising quickly and there is a friendly tone in all your main interests. Be wary about how you answer mail, though. It seems likely that a new form of association is coming along. Home life is going to benefit from this and conditions there improve rapidly.

ARIES: (March 21-April 20): By about middle week considerable advantageous changes occur in an occupational direction. More resourcefulness comes to your aid. The financial tone improves quickly. Domestically a time for care about uses of savings and matters affecting security ahead (insurance, etc.).

TAURUS (April 21-May 20): Forward-looking schemes have a great fillip now. There could be a certain amount of effect on finances. Relationships may reach somewhat critical times but betterments begin by end-week. A good time for forging ahead with arrangements which December left dawdling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): An all-over optimistic period which invigorates all interests. An opportunity arises for dealing with a very private problem on lines that guarantee success. Developments help your reserves. But it may be necessary to be guarded about health issues near the week-end.

CANCER (June 21-July 20): Progressive tendencies throughout but avoid ventures. There is the normal indication of advancement of a partnered interest. Also your closest friendship takes on new accents. Some speeding up of workaday tasks might be a good idea to advantage yourself of trends.

LEO (July 21-August 21): Could be a somewhat trying time domestically owing to disagreement on a new arrangement. This is to fade out quickly. Vigorous trends take over in material interests and offer chances for gain. It will be an inspiring phase which brings agreeable new developments.

VIRGO (August 22-September 22): A time when a venture could pay off excellently. Mail received can be a nuisance at times. Socially an important period for contacting useful people. Most domestic interests follow lines you like and it is fairly clear that pleasant changes affect the younger people.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22): Direct changes occur in many sides of your life. Domestically this means gratification of a great wish. Occupational interests have an immediate boost. This probably brings no impulse at once to finances, but if prudence is used these are due for a rapid change-over now.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 22): Possibly a slow-moving time for some projects. But lively mail has a tonic effect on your planning. Only sizeable snags would come out of disagreement with a friend, but this is temporary. You have some heartening signs of improvement in an intimate domestic question.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 20): Preparations for a new upsurge in your concerns begin now. You can plan forward with great confidence. Momentarily the effects are on current finances, these being helped. End-week should call for some discretion in contacts and avoidance of unnecessary physical strain.

"We shall overcome,
we shall overcome,
we shall overcome some day.
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
we shall overcome some day."

While the heart hopes and sings songs of hope the world is overtaken by calamities. The cause of which is hatred, violence, suspicion, ignorance. Primitive forces that prevent people from being human. But they will be overcome some day.

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PRESTIGE

CONGI's New Strategy To Win Support Of Rajasthan Princes

By Our Correspondent

JAIPUR: MRS. GANDHI and the Commies have so far failed to achieve anything in their serious efforts to win over the princes in Rajasthan. CONGI has therefore planned a new strategy to seek the support of the princes. Apparently the new strategy involves excessive harassment of the princes with a view to pressurising them.

Maharana of Udaipur
Determined

For two days **Mr. Dinesh Singh,** Union Minister for Industrial Development, stayed with the Maharana of Udaipur, **Bhagwat Singh,** in his palace recently in the capacity of his personal guest. It is learned that Mr. Singh's visit to Udaipur was at his own instance and his mission was to assuage the Maharana's strong feelings against Mrs. Gandhi's party in his region.

CURRENT learns that the Maharana's views have become more bitter inasmuch as the CONGI is concerned and he is determined to finish the rule of this party at least in Rajasthan.

Resolve

The Maharana stands by his resolve to enter politics should the opposition parties, barring, of course, the CONGI and Communists, unite to forge a common front of the SVD type. Replying to a question whether Mr. Singh was sent by Mrs. Gandhi to get his support for the CONGI, the Maharana said the question did not arise. Mrs. Gandhi, said the Maharana, is a danger to democracy in India.

The Maharana will soon go to Jodhpur and Bikaner in connection with his plans to enter politics. The young Maharaja of Jodhpur, GAJ SINGH, is also keen on destroying the CONGI in his region.

The Congi's Concern

The CONGI's concern over moves of Jodhpur and Udaipur to oppose it in the next elections is understandable. These two regions have returned the maximum number of Congress MLAs in the past elections, barring the first one in 1952 when the late Maharaja, **Hanumant Singh,** fully destroyed the Congress. The Maharaja's death soon after the 1952 elections changed the whole picture of the State, politically speaking.

In case the CONGI is routed in these two regions, there will be no hope for this party to again come to power. In other parts this party commands no big influence. After the order to derecognise the princes was issued, the CONGI has lost considerable ground in the State.

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D.M.K.'s Tamil Fanaticism May Cost It Votes At General Elections

By Our Correspondent

MADRAS: Ironically, the linguistic issue which in 1967 helped the DMK to turn the tables on the Congress Party in Tamil Nadu, now threatens to become the ruling party's undoing.

The DMK's frenetic crusade against Hindi fanaticism on the eve of the last general elections is generally acknowledged to be one of the main reasons for its sweeping success. Today, the boot is on the other foot, and the DMK's Tamil fanaticism may turn the tide of public opinion against it in the next elections.

The student community which spearheaded the DMK's electoral onslaught on the Congress in 1967, is now suffering from total disillusionment and is up in arms against the party.

The seeds of chaos were broadcast in the Tamil Nadu legislature early this month, when the Tamil Arasu Kazhagam leader GRAMANI, who is a great Tamil enthusiast, moved a non-official resolution advising the Government not to yield to the growing pressure from the students and the general public for individual freedom to choose between English and Tamil, as the medium of instruction in colleges. Mr. Gramani also urged the Government to go ahead at the maximum speed with its Tamilisation programme.

In this context, Chief Minister **Karunanidhi** made a few rash policy pronouncements which literally shocked the legislature and the public. **In ten years or so, the Chief Minister predicted, it could well come to pass that a law would be enacted stipulating that only those who had qualified academically through the Tamil medium would be eligible for employment in Government institutions and, furthermore, those who did not study Tamil may be penalised.**

A serious clash occurred when over 2000 students staged a demonstration outside the Secretariat for the continuance of English as the medium of instruction at the collegiate level. The police resorted to lathi charge and teargas shells to disperse the crowd.

Most observers state that the demonstrators came in a peaceful mood to register their protest. Unfortunately, however, neither the Chief Minister nor the Education Minister were at the Secretariat and the **ministers available chose to act with restraint.**

CONGO leader KARUTHIRUMAN reflected the thinking of the students when he said in the Assembly: "It is now the wish and desire of the students to have freedom of choice in the matter of the medium of instruction. They are understandably apprehensive about their future. You (the DMK Government) have thrown Hindi overboard. Now you want to give up English. How are they to get employment?"

Karunanidhi

It is conceded by the educationists that not only has the quality of education in Tamil Nadu deteriorated because of the precipitate promotion of Tamil, but employment opportunities have also been curtailed by this linguistic compartmentalisation of the country.

The clash outside the Secretariat was followed by waves of unrest. All over Tamil Nadu, students absented themselves from classes in protest against "the high-handed police action." In some areas, prohibitory orders were promulgated against assemblies and processions.

The student wing of the DMK and the student wings of the DMK's political hangers-on (like the CONGI, the CPI, the TAK, the Muslim League and the Forward Bloc) passed resolutions supporting the DMK Government in its "historic task" of promoting Tamil.

The Chief Minister declared that the whole agitation was politically motivated. He pointed out that "the demonstrators were shouting anti-Karunanidhi slogans which have no relevance to the language issue". Critics considered this argument rather naive as it was obvious that the DMK's language policy was the target of attack and that Karunanidhi as Chief Minister was merely identified as the prime policy-maker.

The Principal of the Jain College testified that a crowd of students had gathered in the college campus merely to pass a resolution protesting against the unwarranted police action on the demonstrators at the Secretariat. He opined that the students had no intention of staging any boisterous demonstration. **However, he said, the police gate-crashed into the college campus without his permission and teargassed the students.**

CONGO leader **Kakkan** declared that the students had peacefully gone to the Secretariat to meet the Ministers, but were greeted with lathis and tear-gas shells. He announced the CONGO's plans to hold protest meetings against the DMK's "anti-student attitude."

Ex-Chief Minister **Bhaktavatsalam,** who had unleashed a reign of terror against the student community in the historic DMK-led anti-Hindi agitation of 1966, said that "ultimately the Tamil medium would prevail at all levels" and that it was necessary for the Government to make haste slowly.

But his fellow-partyman, CONGI leader **C. Subramaniam** sounded a different note. **"However much you may oppose Hindi,"** he warned the DMK, **"the day will certainly come when the DMK will have to reconsider its stand and accept Hindi".**

All these conflicting statements and the attendant clamour have exposed the total futility of the DMK's linguistic policy in Tamil Nadu.

Stunning Disclosures About CONGI Personalities At Lucknow AICC

By Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The CONGO AICC at Lucknow provided some stunning disclosures involving prominent personalities of the CONGI, including MRS. GANDHI.

Mr. Morarji Desai recalled how in 1960 he had opposed, in the Congress Working Committee, **Mrs. Gandhi's** plans for having an alliance with the Muslim League in Kerala following the dismissal of the Communist Ministry there. Mrs. Gandhi was then the Congress President and she overruled Mr. Desai and others and went ahead with her plans for a Congress alliance with the Muslim League.

Thus a communal organisation was given political respectability and a dying force was resurrected by Mrs. Gandhi. No wonder she is now keen on placating the League and would not so much as brand it a communal party, while she lost no chance in denouncing the Jana Sangh as communal.

Another disclosure came from **Mr. Bhagwat Dayal Sharma,** former Haryana Chief Minister. **He openly charged Mr. Y. B. Chavan,** then Home Minister, with instigating and engineering the defection of Congress MLAs to topple Mr. Sharma's ministry. The Haryana ministry was the first victim of defections led by the then Speaker, **Mr. Rao Birendra Singh.**

Mr. Sharma suggested that Mrs. Gandhi wanted to topple his ministry and Mr. Chavan carried out the toppling operation at her behest. He even disclosed the chronological details of the operation, how Mr. Chavan telephoned a particular MLA at the unearthly hour of 2 a.m. to "advice" him to defect so that Mr. Bhagwat Dayal Sharma's ministry could be toppled.

Mysore Govt. Offers Facilities For French-Sponsored Small Car Project

By Our Correspondent

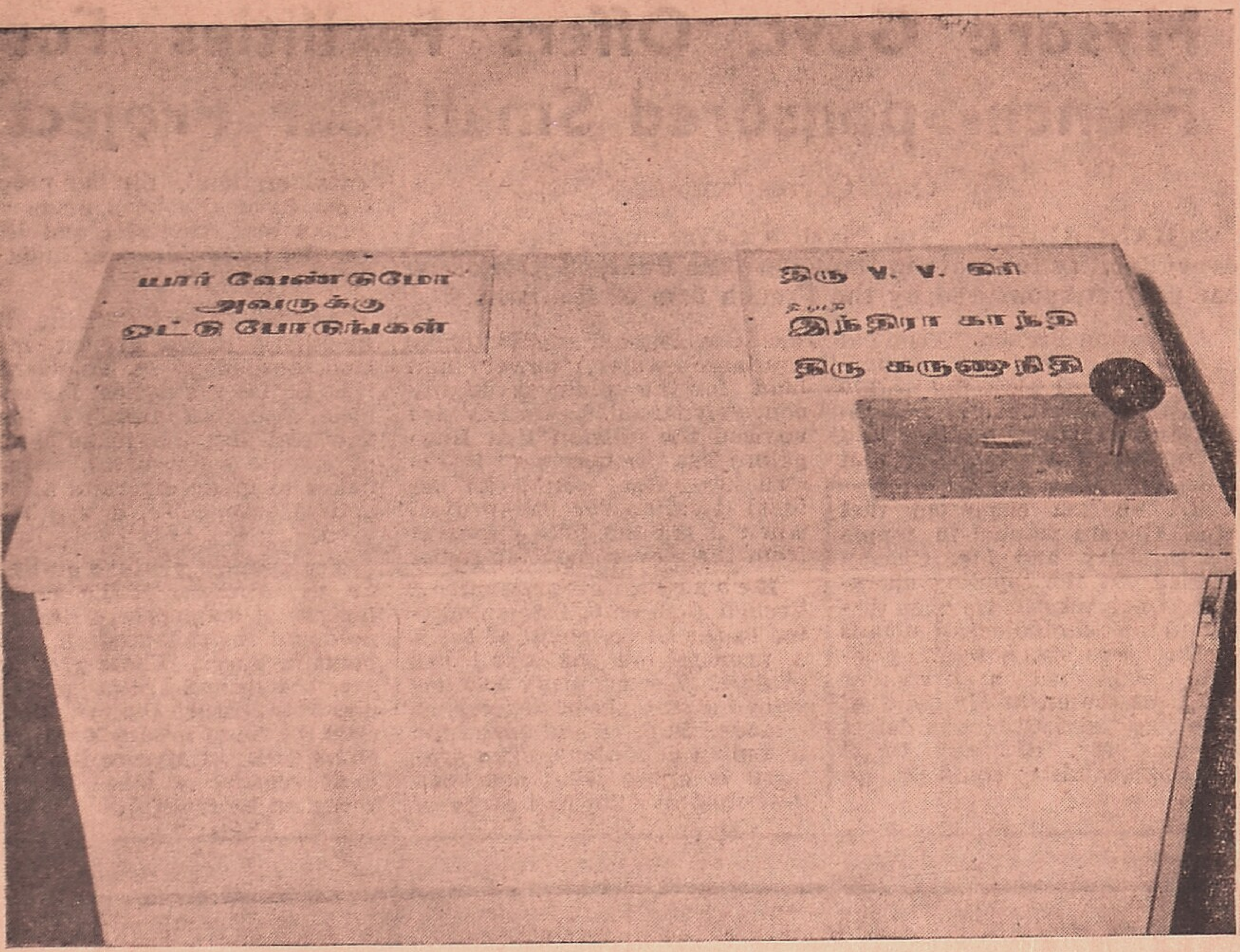
BANGALORE: The Mysore Government has offered every facility to locate in Bangalore the Public Sector small car project sponsored by the French firm of Renaults.

A visiting French Technical mission has discussed the project in detail with the State Industries Minister, **Mr. Rajasekhara Murthy;** he has told the members of the mission that the Government would make available water, power and land for the plant at highly concessional rates. He has also advised the mission that Bangalore has the necessary infrastructure and would be an ideal location for the project when it got the final approval from the Government of India.

Renault, a nationalised French Company, has submitted to the Government of India a proposal on the small car project. The company has designed a new six-seater car, at a moderate price and adaptable to Indian conditions. The proposal is under what has been described as "the first stage of consideration". Similar proposals have also been made by Japan and Australia and it is for the Government of India to take a decision.

At his meeting with the members of the French mission, headed by **M. Thouvenot,** the State Industries Minister also discussed possible joint ventures for the manufacture of caustic soda, paint, acetate flakes to make cigarette filters, and acetate fibre, a synthetic yarn.

Yet another venture outlined by the Minister is the manufacture of magnesite, silica and dolomite bricks used in steel plant furnaces. These products are scarce and are at present imported. Since the raw materials for these products were in abundance in Mysore State, a joint venture of this nature is bound to be fruitful.



New voting machine (voting mechanism).

The inventor (3rd from right) with President and Mrs. V. V. Giri.

New Voting Machine Invented by Coimbatore's G. D. Naidu

A 'CURRENT' Report

IN view of the forthcoming 1972 General Elections, MR. G. D. NAIDU, a well-known inventor of Coimbatore has designed and produced a reportedly fool-proof election voting machine which would be economical, time-saving and accurate enough to avoid election disputes.

With the machine, which is manually operated, a voter can poll his vote in under 30 seconds. This is after he has been identified by the Identification Officers outside the voting room. Once a voter has been identified, the Officer presses a knob on his table and the door to the voting room opens.

The voter enters the voting room and the door shuts behind him automatically. He then moves to the voting machine where he encounters a set of knobs. The number of knobs is always one more than the number of contesting candidates. (Mr. Naidu's machine caters for three contestants).

Beside each knob, the voter finds a photograph of himself, with details of name, address, colour, identification marks, etc. **The voter can press any of the buttons only once. If he does not wish to vote for any of the candidates, he can press the last (fourth) knob. But he MUST press one of the knobs, else the room door will not open for him to leave.** When the voter comes out of the election room, the knob on the Identification Officer's table returns to its original position, ready for the next voter.

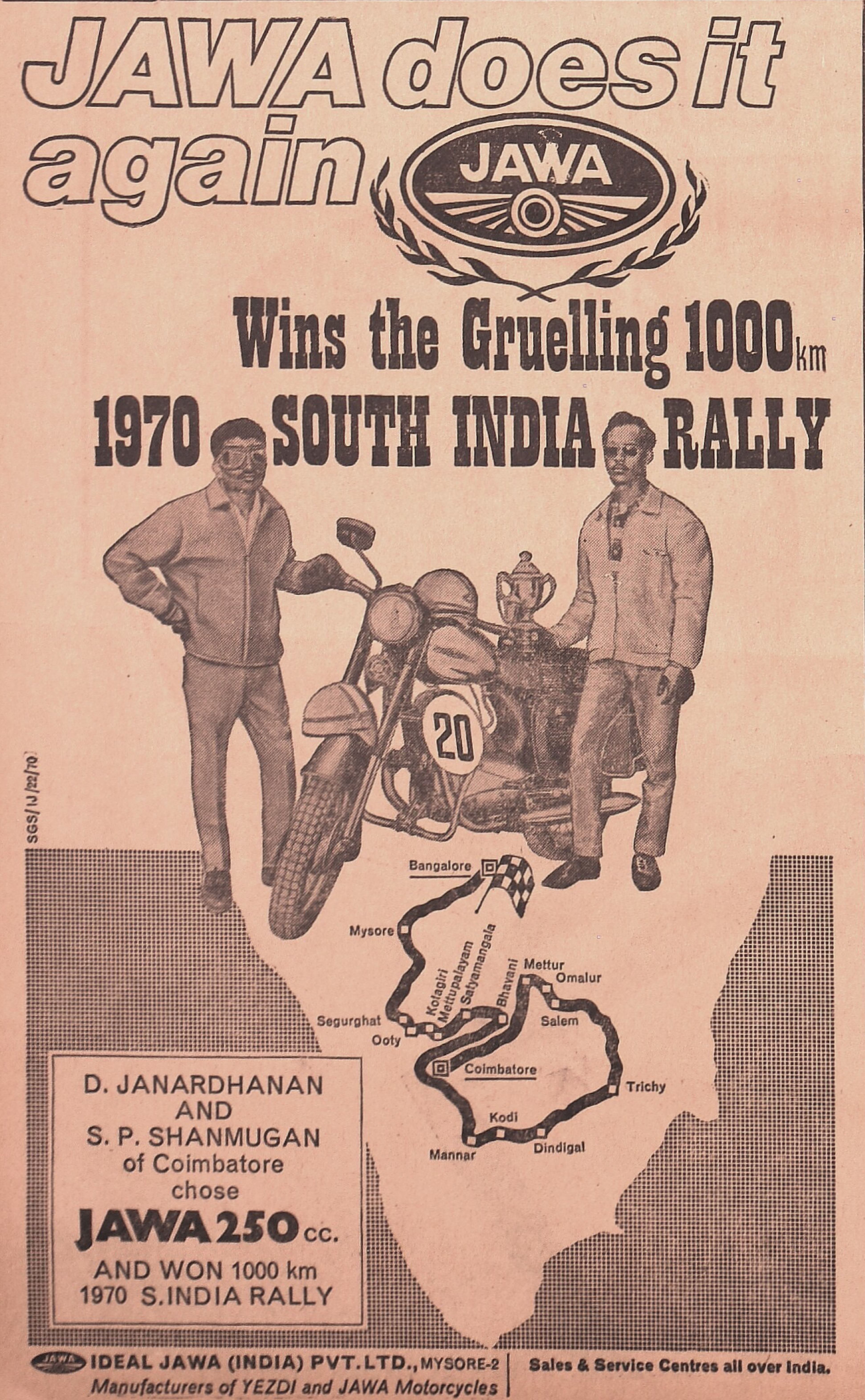
All the knobs are fitted with automatic counters. If required, the counters can be removed, after obtaining the signed permission from the agents or the candidates, who have to mention the number in the counters. The counters are then sent to the District Magistrate or the Collector who keeps the key of the counters and later reduces the counters to zeros.

Three parts

Mr. Naidu's voting machine thus consists of three parts: **the Identification Officer's table, the Entrance door and the Voting mechanism,** The door can be fitted to any existing room, in which the voting machine is kept. The Identification Officer's table is placed outside the voting room.

Officials who have inspected the machine and seen it in operation have recommended the machine for use in the 1972 elections, as they feel it would avoid the disputes that could arise during a poll.

Mr. Naidu's new invention will be on display at the **Park Fair Exhibition at the S.I.A.A. Grounds in Madras from December 20 to January 20, 1971.**



Pak "Volunteers" For Kashmir Trained On An Organised Scale

NEW DELHI: Pakistan is reported to be training "volunteers" for infiltrating into Kashmir on a more organised and larger scale than before the mass infiltration of 1965 which led to the conflict between the two countries.

The "volunteers" are known to be getting training from Chinese guerilla warfare experts who are stationed in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

The presence of Chinese has been resented by the group led by **Mohammed Maqbool Butt,** which had launched a movement for "independent Azad Kashmir". Pakistani authorities have come with a heavy hand on this movement and imprisoned several of their workers.

Butt's powerful group is of the view that an overwhelmingly larger population in "Azad Kashmir" is fed up with the tyrannical rule of West Pakistan, who are holding top positions in the administrative set-up in the area. The people of "Azad Kashmir" are not trusted in high positions. The territory has not been allocated any good industries and avenues of employment are few.

Butt's group has statistics to quote that the Kashmiris in the "Azad Kashmir" are migrating to big cities like Lahore, Rawalpindi and even to Karachi to work as labourers.

Pakistani industrialists are always anxious to pick up Kashmiris because of their sturdy physique. The Butt group feels that this mass migration and the induction of military personnel in "Azad Kashmir" on a mass scale will reduce the population of Kashmiris in the area.

NEXT WEEK

First instalment of extracts from

SHIVAJI

By D. F. KARAKA

Fate of missing ship Mahajagmitra

"Is my son alive or not?" asks grief-stricken mother

A "CURRENT" Story

This is a sad story. It tells of the anguish of a mother for her lost son.

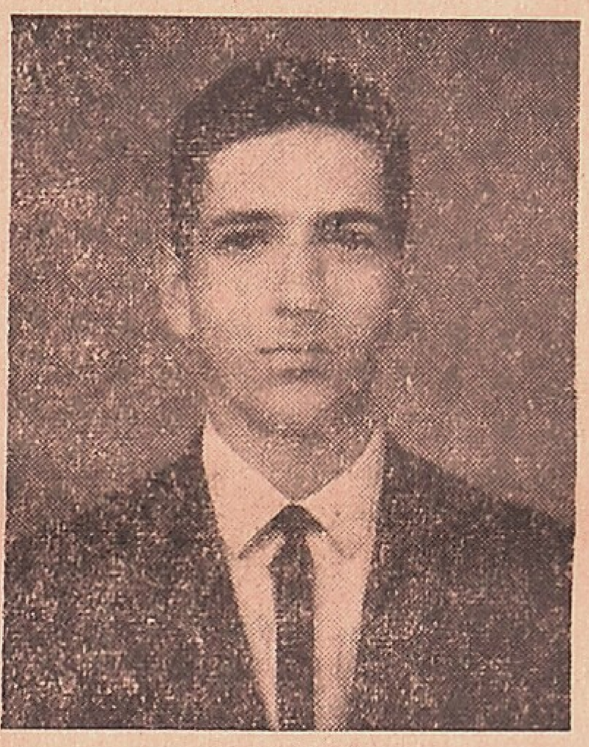
To CURRENT office last week (Tuesday, Dec. 15), came **Mrs. Banoo Irani**, mother of the 22-year-old Cadet Trainee, **Sarosh Perry** on board the ship **M. V. Mahajagmitra,** a cargo vessel, which has been lost since November 12 this year. She was feeling desperate. She wiped her tears as she told her story:

"It was in the first week of November 1970", she told CURRENT, "that the ship Mahajagmitra, which belonged to the **Great Eastern Shipping Company** and is now chartered by the **South East Asia Company Private Ltd.,** was due to sail from Calcutta to Kuwait. ...... First there was a strike and the ship was held up. Later, there was danger from dacoits and the ship was recalled. Some time was taken for repairs. All that time it was docked in the Hooghly river. **Finally, it set sail from the Bay of Bengal on November 11. What an unhappy day it was for me."**

She continued her story: "CAPT. S. NESARI sent a message to say that a cyclone was approaching. This was the same cyclone that struck E. Pakistan. The S.O.S. said that the crew cabin and the store-room were flooded."

The Captain's last words gave the direction of the ship and before he could go into details, communication was cut off. There were at that time, 49 people on board including one woman. She was the newly-married wife of the Chief Officer of the Mahajagmitra.

"From that day onwards", said Mrs. Irani, "we have had no news of the ship at all. It is as if it had disappeared into thin air —no wreckage, no clue whether there are survivers or not. A search was carried out and MR. PHILIP BRAGG, Managing Director of the South East Asia Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd., went to Dacca in this connection. Nothing more has been done and we were told that planes could not fly low because of the Pak VIP planes which also fly low." Mr. Bragg told Mrs. Irani that **"without a massive search aided by naval vessels, aeroplanes and helicopters, it would not be possible to do anything."**



Sarosh Perry

"There was going to be a further search, but that was abandoned."

"Was it because of some red tape?" she asked. Mrs. Irani has written to the **Prime Minister** and sent the letter through **Mr. P. N. Haksar,** her Secretary, **"but up to now I have not had a line from her."**

"All I want is a search. Is it too much to ask? I am a woe-stricken mother. Why doesn't the Prime Minister at least reply to me?"

She confided to CURRENT that she was shocked and greatly upset. "Can you imagine how I feel not knowing whether my son is alive or not."

Sarosh Perry has a twin brother KEKI, who keeps saying: "Mummy I know he's alive and will return."

IAF to search

She has pinned her faith in God and believes that help will come. "But when?"

According to a "Free Journal" report (December 17), an IAF plane is to search for the missing freighter.

It says, "After many days of procedural delays the 'final search' for the missing freighter m.v. **Mahajagmitra** will now be carried out by the Defence Ministry in an uncombed area of the Bay of Bengal........"

"An IAF Liberator aircraft has been commissioned for the purpose, it was learnt."

The 6,000 ton freighter disappeared leaving no trace.

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Cigarette Industry War In The Lok Sabha

NEW DELHI: On Friday, December 11, the Lok Sabha had a half hour discussion on the controversial subject of "Production beyond installed capacity by India Tobacco Company".

The discussion was initiated by MR. JYOTIRMOY BOSU (CPI-M). Mr. Bosu began by saying that he wished to show "how in the case of a single item of consumer goods the monopoly giants eat away the Indian consumers, the tobacco growing peasants, the workers, the Exchequer and the tax collectors by showing the profit elsewhere and make us lose foreign exchange by export of raw materials which can be made finished goods here by small Indian entrepreneurs."

"Another Giant Combine"

But the focal point of his attack was "on another giant combine", the Indian Tobacco Company. **"There is very little Indian in it"**, Mr. Bosu said, adding: "Their cousins are Molins, Triveni Tissues and India Foil—all controlled by British American Tobacco Company Limited of United Kingdom."

At one point, soon after Mr. Bosu spoke, **Mr. Sitaram Kesri** rose on a point of order. "There is no quorum in the House", he said. After the bell was rung more than once, a quorum was available and Mr. Bosu continued.

He referred to the capacities allowed to ITC and Vazir Sultan Tobacco Co., which, according to **Mr. Dinesh Singh's** reply to Question 216 on November 10, 1970 ("quite recently") were: **ITC 30,300 million pieces per annum, and Vazir Sultan 11,100 million.**

Mr. Bosu: "Against that, what happened?" He went on to answer this by saying that the figure of 18,860 million had jumped to 24,240 million and then again it jumped up to 30,300 million. He asked the Hon'ble Minister for Industrial Development and Internal Trade, to explain how the capacity stepped up and on what justification.

Mr. Bosu said that after the Pakistan aggression, there was a liberalisation which was later withdrawn by Notification No. IDRA/29B/70/5 on July 18, 1970.

Mr. Bosu: "It withdraws the liberalisation and it provides that the exemption shall not apply to any industrial undertaking if the undertaking is a foreign company. . . ." He claimed that both ITC and Vazir Sultan were "foreign companies".

Mr. Bosu stated that Vazir Sultan "has been described as an Indian subsidiary of a foreign company with assets of more than Rs. 6 crores". He asked Government to explain categorically how they had allowed excess consumption over and above the licensed capacity.

Mr. Bosu spoke of Virginia Tobacco being bought by ITC at Rs. 9, while they sell a kilo of tobacco for pipe smoking at Rs. 120 per kilo inclusive of excise duty.

Mr. Bosu, in his concluding remarks, asked: "Is it true that the profits of Vazir Sultan Tobacco Co. went up by 50 per cent or Rs. 70 lakhs, whereas

(Continued on page 21)

i prefer ROGERS with my costly drinks

aslart

ESTD. 1837

Jana Sangh Prefers Electoral Adjustments At National Level —Vajpayee

By Our Correspondent

BANGALORE: The growing popularity of the Jana Sangh here was evidenced by the mammoth crowd which turned out to greet the party chief ATAL BEHARI VAJPAYEE, who stormed into the city recently.

Mr. Vajpayee's visit to the city has boosted the chances of the 18 Jana Sangh nominees in the civic elections to the Bangalore Municipal Corporation. The Jana Sangh chief did not, however, touch on either the civic elections or municipal issues during his meetings here.

He commented on a variety of subjects:

1. Those who encouraged the Muslim League were playing with fire; communalism is a double-edged sword and if the Prime Minister were to encourage the League, then she must remember that she cannot fight Hindu communalism.

2. A Jana Sangh survey in Rajasthan has revealed that after the nationalisation of Banks, agriculturists are not getting loans and the rate of interest has gone up.

3. Mrs. Gandhi may yet test her atom bomb on the eve of the general election; and, of course, the bomb is a must for the country to prove its strength.

4. The Jana Sangh is not for piecemeal electoral adjustments between democratic and secular parties; such adjustments should be on the national level; if the CONGO wants to forge an adjustment with the Jana Sangh in States where it is weak, it is open to the Jana Sangh to say that it will negotiate for adjustments only in States where it is weak; the Mysore and Gujarat units of his party are not over-anxious to forge an alliance with the CONGO; even so, any alliance should be at a national level on an all-India basis; the resolution adopted by the AICC at Lucknow is generally welcome.

5. There are strong possibilities of a mid-term poll for Parliament; the Prime Minister is known to spring surprises and would, in any case, have nothing to lose even if she paved the way for the poll, since she was already heading a minority government; his party would, before the order for a mid-term poll, insist upon the President to ascertain the possibility of an alternative government.

6. The best way to tackle the evil of defections would be to ban it and compel the defecting legislators by law to seek re-election; the Jana Sangh is all for fixing a statutory ceiling on the size of ministries, but it will hardly be any cure for defections; the Prime Minister has convened a meeting of opposition leaders to discuss the problem of defections and his party would press for legislation on the basis of the Committee's recommendations.

7. The Chandrachud Commission's report on the Deendayal Upadhyaya murder is thoroughly disappointing; the mystery, instead of being solved, has only deepened; the report of the Commission read more like an apology for the CBI than an open-minded and objective attempt to unravel the truth about the murder; the Jana Sangh would agitate for the appointment of another commission to go into the entire matter de novo; the Jana Sangh would also agitate for the setting up of an inquiry commission on the death of LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI.

Atal Behari Vajpayee

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Ophthalmologists protest against

Dr. Hingorani Bringing Eye Specialists From U.K.

BOMBAY: The ophthalmologists of Maharashtra and Gujarat who are quite agitated about DR. HINGORANI bringing Eye Specialists from U.K. to treat eye diseases in India, held a Convention on 6th December at the Nair Hospital to discuss the issue.

DR. HINGORANI and his team from U.K. are going to undertake corneal grafting on children and others and are appealing to social workers to bring patients from rural areas.

In their statement the ophthalmologists have said: "We feel very strongly about this move and consider this an encroachment on the work of the Indian ophthalmologists. Such practice, in our opinion, is uncalled for, unethical and irregular. We wish to draw the attention of the Indian Medical Council and the medical councils of all the states and request them to take serious notice of this procedure and use their good offices to protect the interests and rights of the Indian Medical (Ophthalmologists) profession.

"These surgeons from abroad are not on the register of the Medical Councils of India. To practice medicine without registration is unethical and irregular and an affront to the medical profession of India.

"The team of surgeons has specifically come with the intention of performing Keratoplasties (corneal grafting). They have not been invited either by the government or by any private body or bodies. Nor have they been sent to this country by any official medical body of U.K. with prior consent.

"Dr. Hingorani has stated that he has brought this team under the auspices of a so-called International cultural exchange of which he himself professes to be the President. The bonafides of this body are not known in this country.

"He came here last year at the invitation of the Maharaja of Patiala as they wanted to do some charitable work on the occasion of the Guru Nanak Centenary. At that time our Indian surgeons had offered to do this work honorarily but this offer was turned down.

"There are Eye Banks in practically all the states of India and each state has expert ophthalmologists who are competent enough to undertake such operations. Keratoplasty is not a field operation but requires great pre-operative care, proper selection of cases and a prolonged post-operative follow-up. Nor is it the privilege of the Foreign surgeons only. From the way Dr. Hingorani is advertising in the press, he is creating in the minds of the people, a false impression that Keratoplasty is a simple operation which can be performed at anytime and anywhere.

"Obviously this team is self-invited and the feelings of Indian ophthalmologists are very strong against this procedure. It is most unfortunate that a Health Minister should preside over a function arranged for a reception given to these foreign ophthalmologists without understanding its implications. It is equally most surprising that a Rotary Club in Bombay should felicitate Dr. Hingorani and his team of surgeons at their weekly meeting. Moved by Dr. Hingorani's talk a Rotarian doctor immediately rose and offered him ten free beds in a Jain charitable hospital.

"Not informed"

"The Ophthalmic Association of Bombay was not informed of their arrival, nor of their intention to perform Keratoplasties here.

"No state of emergency has arisen here, such that we feel the dire necessity of importing ophthalmologists from abroad. The ophthalmic profession of this country is fully alive to the problem of blindness here. Mobile ophthalmic units are working in the rural areas in many states. Eye camps are held once or twice a year in many states. There is a National Society for Prevention of Blindness to look after this problem.

"Trachoma Control Project has instituted mass treatment in several states where Trachoma is rampant and is considered a major cause of blindness. More than 20 million people, mostly children, have been treated uptil now.

"The Royal Commonwealth Society has established a regional office in Bombay and has supplied fully equipped mobile units to carry out mass operations of cataract."

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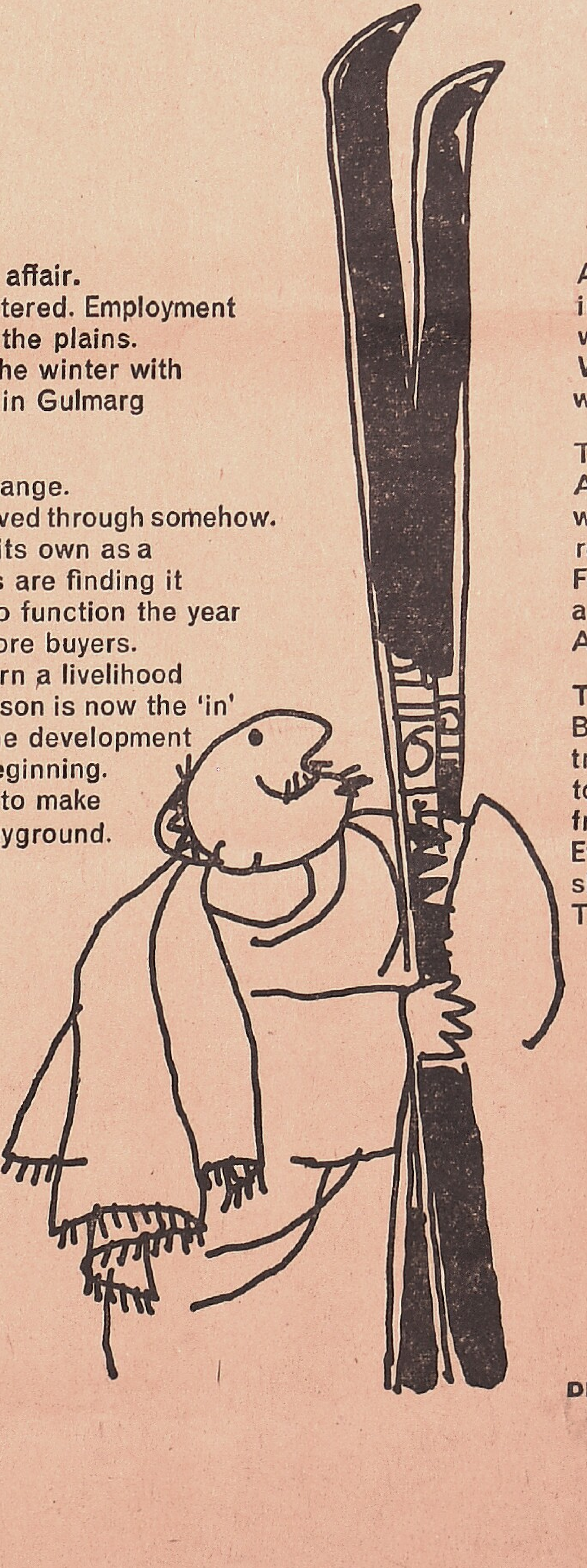

Winter in Gulmarg was a bleak affair. With hotels closed. Shops shuttered. Employment laid off. People moved down to the plains. Those who remained survived the winter with their summer earnings. Winter in Gulmarg meant six months of nothing.

Now things are beginning to change. Winter is no longer a time to be lived through somehow. Gulmarg is rapidly coming into its own as a spectacular winter resort. Hotels are finding it profitable to stay open. Shops to function the year round. Craftsmen are finding more buyers. And waiters and porters can earn a livelihood even in the winter. The 'off' season is now the 'in' season in Gulmarg. Thanks to the development of tourism. And this is only a beginning. Because plans are going ahead to make Gulmarg Asia's finest winter playground.

Already, one out of every twenty persons in Kashmir earns a living directly through tourism, which indirectly supports almost 25% of the population. With the expansion of tourism, this figure would be considerably enhanced.

Tourism is the world's largest business. And the fastest growing. In five years it will be worth Rs. 18,000 crores. And tourism offers high returns on investment in the shortest time. For instance, in 1968, Yugoslavia earned three and a half dollars on every dollar it invested in tourism. A net profit of 250% !

Tourism is also a people's business. Because people benefit wherever the tourist travels. Wealth flows from the affluent countries to the less affluent. And within the country from the developed areas to the less developed. Everyone benefits. Airlines, travel agents, hoteliers, shopkeepers, craftsmen, waiters, taxi-drivers. The chain is endless.

ASP/TC/T/140

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Death At The Antillano...5

"Did you think I came here to make love? I want the diamonds."

ENAMORADO entered the noisy patio and felt eyes on him. Women were washing and bathing kids in huge stone tubs and cooking the evening meal on charcoal stoves.

In his room he found Zara, busily combing down the bangs that met the almond upsweep of coal-black eyes. He glanced at her. There was beauty there—perhaps death.

The room reduced living to its simplest; a huge brass bedstead with a lumpy mattress, a crude wooden table with a chair and an empty crate beside it, and a cracked mirror.

He closed the door and locked it for the first time in years. No one in the tenement locked doors, there was nothing to steal.

Zara smiled up at him playfully.

"Talk!" he demanded.

"Why do you speak to me so harshly?"

"Who sent you to me?" he glared.

"Maybe I like you," she smiled coyly.

"Maybe you like diamonds," he sneered.

Zara shed tears. They came too easily and the drummer was wary. She crossed to him and flung an arm about his neck. Her lips were raised, ripe and full of promise. Enamorado bent to meet them. She clung to him with desperate eagerness; his head swam and his pulse tingled.

"You send me," he said at last. "Send me like a hot tune."

"You will make me a present of the diamonds?" Zara asked in tempting tones.

He laughed loudly, scornfully. **Suddenly he felt a sharp prod in his ribs.**

"It's a gun," she said evenly, moving off.

"So that's how you play!" the drummer growled.

"Did you think I came here to make love?" Zara purred. **"I want the diamonds."**

"Then find them," he challenged.

Zara crossed to the bed, turned back the mattress and ran her hand across its lumps. Then she went through his pockets, tossing the rattle aside.

He sat down heavily on the bed. She stood against the wall, pistol in hand, a lovely and deadly creature.

His hand patted the feathered pillow, bunched its escaping softness. Enamorado didn't believe she'd shoot. It had never occurred to him that anyone would want to take his life. Of a sudden the pillow flew up and struck Zara. The drummer leaped and they landed in a heap. She was dazed. The fight went out of her. He took the pistol, she offered no resistance.

"You didn't have to do that," Zara said. "It isn't loaded." She burst into tears and they were real.

THE STORY SO FAR: The murder of redheaded DOLIA in the Antillano dance hall has international crime aspects as U.S. Intelligence Col. HECTOR HARRITON, Capt. JAIME BARRIOS of the Cuban police, and Hon. JOSE SANTESE of the Allied Control Commission combine to solve her homicide tied up with heavy diamond loot. Before her death, Dolia had slipped a packet to ENAMORADO, a cafe drummer. He finds a fortune in diamonds therein and conceals them in a pair of maracas (rattles). ZARA, a dance hall siren, had sent a brief warning note to Dolia just before the tragedy. She is grilled on that by Senor SYLVESTRE who orders her to find out if Enamorado has the stones. Meanwhile, the drummer gave one of the rattles to his pal, LITTLE ANTONIO. The latter is murdered but Col. Harriton recovers the rattle. Jose in the lobby sees the American leave his hotel and is knocked out by an unseen assailant as he sneaks into Harriton's room.

"You will talk now," he said softly. "There is much I would like to know.

She lit a cigarette and words came in a flood. **It was a startling tale of Nazi-Fascist plots in the New World after they failed in the old; of hate and bigotry and a web of blackmail. Then murders.**

Zara told of the note she had written to Dolia, the redheaded girl. He believed her now. She was like himself, caught up in things he hadn't thought possible.

"What will they do to you if you fail?" he asked.

"I suppose what they did to Dolia."

"You stay here," he commanded. **"We will beat them at their own game."**

American movie star

Col. Harriton studied the report carefully. A body had been found near the airport. Papers in the pockets identified it as the corpse of the internationally notorious Baron Von Lehman. The clothes bore a New York label.

That was odd, for he knew the Baron had never set foot there. Nor did the passenger lists at the airport show such an arrival. But they did show the name of the Hon. Joseph Santese. Also an assortment of the usual businessmen and tourists, topped by an American movie star. He glanced at his watch and rose.

At the **Calle Paris** a car was parked, its chauffeur seemingly lost in the pages of "Sport." The Colonel got in and the car sputtered off.

"Our man is at the corner," said the chauffeur. "The drummer is in his room and so is the girl who talked to him at the musicians' hangout. She got there first. There's a guy in the doorway across the street who followed her. Should we give him a goin'-over?"

"No," ordered the Colonel. **"We can't show our hand yet. I get out here. You scram."**

A minute or two later, the American rapped sharply on the door and a cautious voice asked who it was.

"Col. Hector Harriton. Open up!"

The ancient bolt shot back, and he entered the room, facing the drummer with Zara's pistol in his hand.

"This is not your house," said Enamorado, "but this is your funeral if you do not speak out, *pronto!*

Zara looked up. "No, Enamorado. It's the *Americano*, he's a good one."

"You come to give me information?" asked the drummer.

"To give and to receive," said the Colonel. "You will tell me what you know?"

"If I did that I would be stupid. You tell. I will judge and pay in kind."

"Agreed. First, you are in danger. They think Dolia passed a packet to you shortly before she was murdered. I think so too. First, I must ask: Have you the diamonds?" There was no answer and he went on. "Alright. We'll come back to that. **Number two: who sent Dolia the warning note?"**

Enamorado was silent but Zara spoke out: "I did. It nearly cost me my life. They accused me."

"They confronted you with the note?"

"Yes."

"And now they send you to get the diamonds?"

"I will not go along with murder."

"Where are their headquarters?" She was silent and he added: "I can protect you."

"No one can do that," she murmured.

"If you are through asking you can talk", said the drummer.

"I'll do that," responded the Colonel, "and I'm sorry to

CURRENT's MURDER Story
Set in Cuba

bring you bad news. Your friend, Little Antonio — they shot him dead in Marianao."

"You lie!" roared Enamorado. **"I saw him at the Two Brothers this afternoon."**

"So did I. And when I saw him again they had bumped him off. I spoke to his sister, Graciela."

"Graciela knows?"

The drummer sat down on the edge of the bed, covered his face, and sobbed. Colonel Harriton put an arm on his shoulder comfortingly. Zara stared out the window.

Enamorado felt utterly lost. A thundering came in his ears; he gripped the chair to steady himself. Then he said: "I will work with you, senor. If it costs me my life, I will avenge Little Antonio."

"You must wipe them out!" declared Zara.

"You will tell us where we can find them?" he asked.

Genevieve Giles looks fetching. She's modelling fashions designed by Paris couturier Yves Saint-Laurent for 20th Century-Fox's "World of Fashion".

Zara faltered. **"They have something on my family. I dare not, senor. For my people's sake."**

"Who is their leader?"

"That I do not know, senor. But they get their orders from a man named Sylvestre."

The Colonel nodded and idly picked up a red seed, a small heap of which was scattered on the floor. He reached over and picked up the rattle. It emitted a dulled sound.

"The diamonds are in this gourd, are they not, *chico?"* he asked.

Col. Harriton twisted the top until it gave way, and a stream of diamonds fell on the top of the rickety table. After admiring them for some minutes, he took them into official custody with the approval of Enamorado and Zara.

"Listen now," said the Colonel. **"Tonight you must go to the Antillano, both of you, as if nothing had happened. You will be well guarded. Remember, tonight at the Antillano."**

The American went out and closed the door. **Suddenly he thought of the other rattle! He had thrown it on the bed in his room. It must contain half the diamonds. Wow! He raced through the streets. Curious eyes followed him.**

Over a body

At the Hotel Nacional, Col. Harriton cursed the elevator service and made for the stairs, taking them two at a time. The clerk shrugged, he was used to these crazy ***Americanos.***

His door pushed inward and he almost fell over a body. He switched on the lights and, before he even turned the body face up, he knew it was the Hon. Jose Santese. The rattle was gone.

He felt Santese's pulse, then heaved a glass of cold water into the flabby face. The stout man groaned and the Colonel carried him to the bed, dumping him in a heap. Soon Santese sat up, fingering a great lump on the back of his head.

The Colonel poured a drink and the stout one took it gratefully, swallowed, then said: "You came back and socked me."

"Why would I do that?"

"The diamonds."

"Hold up a minute. When I left here there was a rattle on the bed. I come back and find it gone and you sprawled on the floor. Neat, very neat!"

"Are you accusing me?" glared the Honorable One.

"By the same token as you accuse me. I suspect you because I suspect everyone. Cards on the table, I say."

"If I searched you this minute what would I find?" asked Jose.

"Half the diamonds. And if I returned the compliment?"

The stout man turned his pockets inside out. There was a key ring, a wallet and some loose change.

"Incidentally, why didn't you tell me you flew in yesterday?" asked the American.

"Nobody asked."

"Came on the same plane with that movie cutie?"

Harriton was aware of the shrewd glance the stout man threw his way.

"I wouldn't notice," he essayed.

If it was a trap, it had failed. The Colonel tried another approach: **"Number one on my hit parade was that warning note. I know who gave it to Dolia the redheaded girl, but it doesn't get me much further. Number two: I didn't tell Captain Barrios they were the Poldini diamonds."**

"That's your story," said Santese stoutly.

"I'm inclined to believe the Captain's playing a lone hand. He did try to lure us out of Havana. By the way, who conked you?"

Jose shrugged. "I don't think it was Captain Barrios. He went off to Cardenas, remember?"

"I checked on that and it seems he changed his mind when he discovered we were playing close to home. And now: What were you doing in my room?"

The Honorable One looked sheepish.

"I thought I might find some evidence."

Col. Harriton nodded. "You were doing your duty. There have always been leaks in Havana. That's why they put me on the case."

"I wondered about that," said Santese.

"I've got some fine bait I'm using tonight. Live bait. And one rattle. And you're due at the Antillano tonight. I'm saving you a seat on the aisle."

"You trust me then?" asked the Honorable One.

The Colonel took the extended hand and grinned—in sarcasm?

Man with fishy eyes

Col. Harriton stood at the Antillano bar, Capt. Barrios on one side, Enamorado on the other.

"Count ten paces to the right," whispered the drummer, "and you'll see the man with the fishy eyes. He's spotted Zara. And he's an artist with the knife."

The orchestra played a stately **"son"** and the dancers took it up. They moved to its graceful rhythm while the man with the dead eyes sought Zara. She

(Continued on page 20)

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Dear Mr. Editor,

Badshah Khan

Dear Mr. Editor,
With reference to the letter of **Miss Mridula Sarabhai** in the CURRENT of December 5, regarding **Badshah Khan**, I hereby give my experience.

I wanted Khan Sahib to attend a function on Ahimsa and I announced when I went to call on him, that I was asked to pay at least Rs. 5,000 as donation by Mridulaji herself. In the meantime, the head of some other committee came to invite him and the matter was settled at Rs. 5,000. First the offers were taken and put before Khan Sahib, then accepted.

Furthermore, there was a complete brigade of doctors who used to decide the fitness of Badshah Khan's health. Sometimes, it happened that at 7 o'clock in the morning, Khan Sahib was declared fit and 12 o'clock unfit and 4 o'clock again fit. It all depended on the amounts offered by various people.

BIMAL PERSHAD JAIN,
Delhi.

* * *

Dear Mr. Editor,
If the report titled "STUNNING REVELATION ON BADSHAH KHAN" in CURRENT dated November 7, is meant to create some issues for discussion in the Lok Sabha, with the ultimate motive of embarrassing the Indian Government, then a non-politician has nothing to say. But if the contents of J. J. SINGH's letter on which the item is based, are genuine, then every right-thinking Indian may wonder. Do we give a present to a friend so that he may use it as he desires, or do we require him to use it as we want?

Would it have satisfied the Jana Sanghis and the Swatantrites if Badshah Khan had thrown away the purses presented to him, saying that he was too high up to accept the trinkets?

Ever since Badshah Khan spoke some good words in respect of the party in power (the person heading the party in power to be exact), your esteemed journal and the spokesman of the Jana Sangh and R.S.S. "The Organiser" weekly, has started denigrating him. He was a welcome guest according to you, upto the time he criticised the law and order situation in India, because thereby you succeeded in blaming the Prime Minister, although in those statements, Badshah Khan was indirectly commenting on the mismanagement of the Congress Governments.

The great "like-minded" persons then started a campaign to stop the masses from contributing to the purse to be presented to Badshah Khan and succeeded inasmuch as the announced target of Rs. 80 lakhs was not reached. Only half the purse could be presented. Thereafter, the same like-minded journals began giving him hints about the use of the monies offered to Badshah Khan. When he did not heed their "advice", they started accusing him of avarice.

After his departure with the money, Badshah Khan was alleged to have given a substantial amount to "Al-Fatah". The allegation was refuted. I hope that these "pure" Indians have been satisfied after reading the Frontier Gandhi's announcement that he will use the money to establish a trilingual press for the propagation of Gandhian ideals and to serve the Pakhtoon cause.

I feel that if Badshah Khan did not have any use for the money, he would not have accepted it.

J. J. Singh's letter has only exposed him and you and proved that your desire for national integration is only skin-deep.

A. R. SWATI,
Executive Member—Insani Biradari, Khudai Khidmatgar,
Bombay.

(The views expressed by correspondents are not necessarily the views of THE CURRENT or its Editor).

Indian Airlines' "Image"

Dear Mr. Editor,
Indian Airlines have a house magazine of their own, which they call their "family newspaper".

Under the column "Your Views", on page 4 of the November 1970 issue, is published a letter, presumably to the Editor. The letter is from I.A.'s Commercial Manager in Delhi, Mr. R. C. Srivastava. It is headed: "What is wrong with Indian Airlines?"

Mr. Srivastava says: **"The question of indiscipline has also to be studied with reference to this tendency. It would be primitive to expect an employee to obey and respect you merely because you are placed in a higher grade than him. Respect, UNLIKE THE PAY PACKET, has to be earned."**

Is the Commercial Manager of Indian Airlines suggesting that the pay packet has not to be earned? Is Indian Airlines some sort of charitable institution, whereby salaries are paid to its "members" without earning the amount thereof?

It is somewhat surprising that Indian Airlines allows such nonsensical remarks to be published, even in a house magazine of their own.

N. H.,
Bombay.

Especially for you

Like the honeymoon itself, that first year of marriage is as necessary as it is wonderful. You need the time to get to know and understand each other....before the children come. And this is the ideal time for thinking about family planning.

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Floodlighting of Haji Ali Mosque

Dear Mr. Editor,
It is gratifying to note that very soon, Bombay, the Queen of metropolitan cities and the Gateway to India will be extending its arms to encompass a second city to cope with the ever-increasing population, the influx of job seekers and fortune hunters and the menacing traffic problem.

I, as a citizen of Greater Bombay—which perhaps will come to be known as Old Bombay when the new city comes up, feel that some thought should be given to beautifying this city as it exists now and I am sure there is a lot of scope to make this Bombay beautiful.

Bombay has historic significance and a number of landmarks stand as silent testimony to some major historic event or other in the long and glorious history of our country. The other day I happened to take a stroll along Dr. Annie Besant Road alongside Haji Ali. This imposing mosque stands like a sentinel as it were, surrounded by the calm waters of the sea. **This seemed to me an excellent landmark for beautification. There cannot be a better site offering such magnificent scope for bringing out the aesthetic aspects in their full glory.**

I visualised the mosque floodlit in the night, its glittering beauty reflected in the sea, offering a panoramic view to those who view it from Malabar Hill. I also visualised this as an excellent complement to the view of the Queen's Necklace on the other side. However, I saw to my annoyance (and there were others who shared my feeling) that even this mosque—the sanctum sanctorum—has not been spared from being used for commercial advertising.

I understand from the Trustees of the mosque that there was an offer by a leading organisation to floodlight this mosque, free of any obligation. I feel that both the Trustees of the mosque and the Municipal authorities should gladly take advantage of this offer of free floodlighting, which will certainly add elegance to the charming backdrop formed by the sea and the deep blue sky. This will be but the first step in making Bombay beautiful and will also show that while the city and the Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra are busy planning the new city, they have not entirely forgotten or neglected the old city, which has been and will continue to be the Queen of Cities in India.

CITIZEN OF GREATER
BOMBAY.

Nationalised Banks

Dear Mr. Editor,
Who will put the money in nationalised banks when he finds that he won't be able to get it back when he is in utmost need, as it happens today?

It is difficult for one to understand the careless "wait and see" policy of the government at the cost of the depositors' faith and interest in nationalised banks.

'MISERABLE EMPLOYEE'
OF NATIONALISED BANK,
Bombay.

National Anthem In Cinema Houses

Dear Mr. Editor,
I am pained to see that scant respect is being shown to the National Flag at the end of the cinema shows, when the National Anthem is played. This is indeed deplorable.

As soon as the film is over, people make a beeline for the exit. Some are found to be seated; they do not have even the elementary courtesy to get up and stand. The cinema authorities make a request to the audiences to observe due decorum, by showing a slide to that effect at the commencement or during the interval of the show. This, apparently, has no effect on the people.

It would, therefore, be in the fitness of things if the playing of the National Anthem is done away with.

K. J. HEMRAJANI,
Bombay.

Christmas Gifts

A big thing at Christmas time and on to the New Year, is a floral arrangement in the house.

Flowers are in the news in a big way.

Those wise housewives who plan ahead, place their orders nice and early for their flowers. Flowers loved at Christmas, are Chrysanthemums and roses. Even the ordinary asters and rosellas can be turned into the most magnificent arrangements.

The Rose Box at (Warden Road) is superbly equipped with the most wonderful roses, double asters, marigolds, chrysanthemums and blood-red rosellas.

After MR. OHARA's recent visit to Bombay, the boys at the Rose Box are turning out some magnificent dry arrangements of driftwood and dry Bangalore roses.

Petals (Peddar Road) also excels in chrysanthemums and roses. Taj's **Oriental Florist** has a collection of arum lilies and tight petal roses. From these, many are used by **Mrs. Mandviwala** for her European style arrangements.

Turkeys for dinner

People like to eat at Christmas and however small a home, they will at least indulge in one good dish for the big dinner. Rocha's Farm Products (Tel: 211279) have a feast laid on in the shop . . . turkeys, geese, lamb, just every kind of meat to choose from.

Marosa's Christmas cakes and pastries should be picked up at 11 o'clock in the morning and they are delicious. **Parsi Dairy Farm's**—Indian sweets

from dudhi halwa to barfi, make the most delightful small gifts at Christmas. **Bombelli's** mince pies, creamy pastries and puff pastries are indescribably delicious. And, of course, **Hans,** the Swiss confectioner at **La Patisserie** (Taj) is turning out some unique goodies for Christmas.

There is an excellent **Lavender Water** put out by **Patanwalas.** Slap a little behind your ears. It stays on for hours on end. A Christmas present of Lavender together with their **Afghan Snow,** is a neat present to give a girl.

A bookstall with loads of interesting Christmas cards is **Happy Bookstall** at Causeway. Many, many, children's books to choose from.

For linen lovers

For the good linen lovers, Villa Theresa's collection is literally out of this world. **Sister Mildrietta** here helps you choose. Large table cloths, with matching napkins, tea napkins, tray cloths, dressing-table cloths. . . . The work is exquisite.

Mrs. Vir's hand-embroidered linen collected from the missions is commendable. All the profits go to charity (4, St. James Court, Marine Drive).

Chaste prints

Give a girl a sari. There is a wide range to choose from. **Khatau Voiles, Simplex's Sonali,** a sari with a future, **Finlay's** chaste prints, **Bombay Dyeing's** new terene saris.

Never forget **Fancy Corporation's Hakoba** saris. They are the best in machine embroidery.

And of course, the **Nirlon** content saris which never never crush.

Decorative Christmas candles can be ordered at **Mrs. Pasricha's** (Tel: 369782).

Silvered brass

Buy your girl friend a silver pendant with a Moghul motif from **Essajee** (Battery Street). **Outstanding.**

Buy an inexpensive cardigan from the Tibetans. They hang around the **Air-India** office and the Gateway (Apollo Bunder).

This week food platters from **Shilpi Kendra** brass, and silvered inside, make expensive but beautiful presents.

Have the woman in your life photographed at **Hamilton Studios,** Ballard Estate.

Random Scent, a perfume that pleases the girl that likes a lingering perfume.

If you want an expensive present, choose a modern artist's picture from **Chemould** or the **Pundole Art Gallery.**

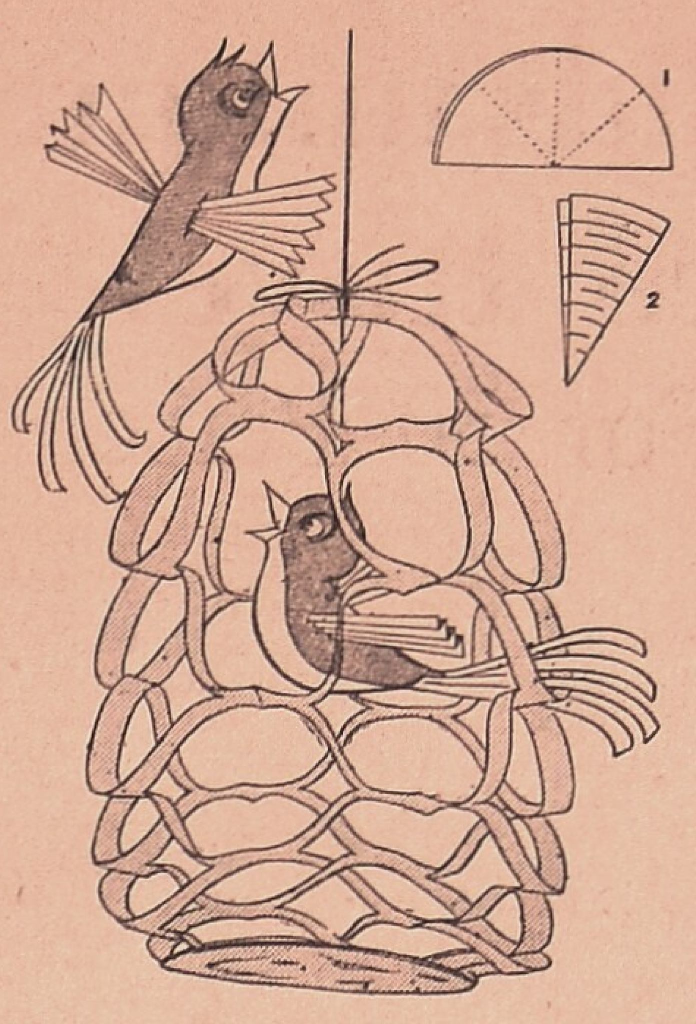
Pearl Cutlery from **Pearl Metal Works.** Made of stainless steel, you can buy a set in several patterns. Ideal for the newly married couple.

Fruit basket. A luscious one can be ordered at **Doble's** in the market.

Christmas letter paper. From **Examiner Press** (Dalal Street), charming way to remember a friend.

—R.K.

CHRISTMAS BIRDS



Insert tail and complete pasting body. Slit body for wing. Suspend bird in cage as shown. Colours, embellishments, etc., are limitless. **Miniatures are suggested for tree ornaments.**

BIRDS of paper and other materials are used as Christmas decorations in many lands. An easy-to-make bird and cage eye-catcher is suggested above.

Construction: For cage, cut out a 9 or 10-inch circle of paper. Fold circle in two (Fig. 1), fold again from right to left, and still again. Holding the paper firmly, use scissors to cut as indicated in Fig. 2. Begin at closed edge, make cuts ¼ to 3/8 inches apart; cut to within ½ inch of edge. Unfold paper, press down on center; gently lift outer framework.

For bird: Cut bird's body 2¾ inches long. Cut in duplicate. Paste together, except at tail. Use pleated paper for wing; fringed paper for tail.

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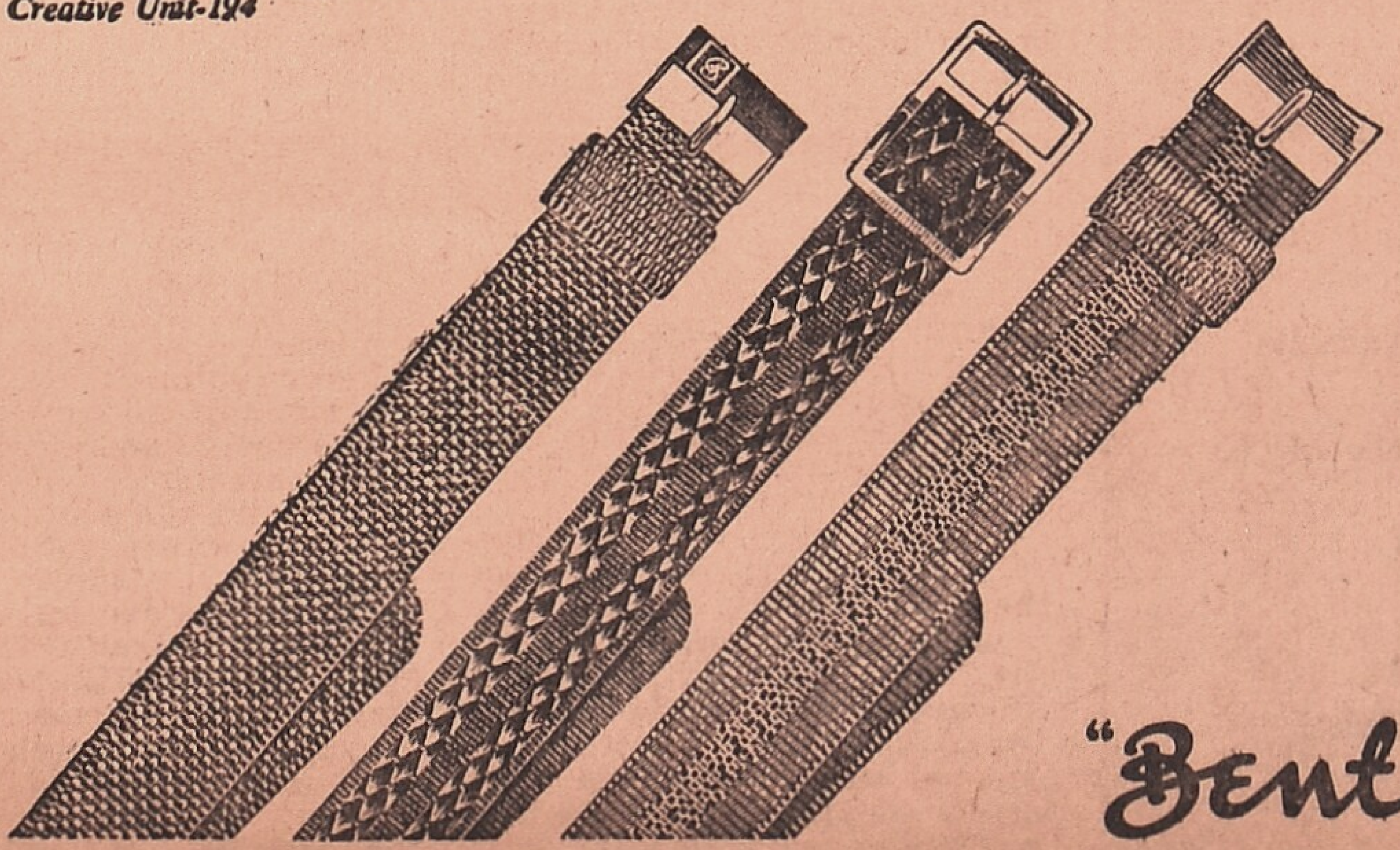

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Indian engineer builds unique Centre for space travel

Testing Accommodation For 50 Persons

By Our M. P. Correspondent

RAIPUR: MR. UMESH KASHEO PADHEY, 42-year-old engineer, has built a Human Centrifuge near Raipur. This is used as a centre for training and testing people for space travel.

According to Mr. Padhey, his Centrifuge is the only one of its kind, not only in India but in the whole world. In more advanced countries, the Human Centrifuges available are used for testing and training of a few people, mainly astronauts—and at a time two to three persons can be accommodated in them. The Raipur Centrifuge can accommodate 50 persons.

The Human Centrifuge is a device used to simulate the dynamic effect of increased gravity encountered during routine and emergency operations of space flight. It is used to test, train and increase the tolerance of astronauts for strenuous and complicated procedures.

The first step of development of the space centre is completed with the installation of the Human Centrifuge, which is a moving structure of seven tonnes of steel framework with inner concave-shaped wooden flooring to test the efficiency, performance and adaptability of 50 persons at a time under increased weight conditions.

The Centrifuge has a diameter of 29½ feet and is installed permanently in a 13 feet deep pit with a 32 feet diameter. Apart from the 7 tonnes of steel, 10,000 nut bolts, 5 k.m. welding rods, 1,000 wooden pieces, 65 meters of cloth and 3,300 metres of wire have gone into its making.

Mr. Padhey, after obtaining B.E. (Hons.) degree in Telecommunications, declined a large number of offers and has devoted himself to research work. He has made a number of inventions and experiments in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

CURRENT interviewed Mr. Padhey in Dangania, the village where he lives and where he has installed the Centrifuge.

Q. What made you think of constructing this Human Centrifuge?

A. Actually I got the idea of making such a device in 1948 when I was a student. I saw the 'Well of Death' in which a motor cyclist rides on a motor cycle against a wooden wall. I offered to undertake a similar ride but I was denied permission on the ground that it was risky. **I measured the R.P.M. (Round Per Minute) of the motor cycle, diameter of the well and then calculated the centrifugal force that developed. I found out that man weighs three times more while riding the motor cycle. I therefore tried to walk with two persons of my weight on my shoulders and succeeded in climbing at an inclination of 30 degrees. I later read the reports that Human Centrifuges had been used to test astronauts and this strengthened my resolve to construct a rotating structure.**

Inside the centrifuge

Actual designing

After settling down at Raipur I started the actual designing of the Human Centrifuge in 1961 with the help of my colleagues and started the actual construction on February 2, 1967. By November 26, 1968 half of the mechanical construction had been completed but work had to be stopped till October 1969 due to financial difficulties. It was restarted in 1969 but it had again to be stopped for four months due to my illness.

Q. Can you tell us the results you have so far recorded?

A. I have tested four stages on the Human Centrifuge which record increases in weight from 25 per cent to 200 per cent and man's capacity to walk on horizontal, vertical and inclined planes of different degrees.

The first stage gives an increase of weight by 25 per cent in three minutes, keeps it steady for four minutes and decreases it in three minutes. It also records his capability to walk on horizontal and inclined planes of 22½ degrees and 45 degrees.

The second stage records increase in weight in four minutes, keeps it steady for three minutes and decreases it in four minutes and capability to walk on inclined planes of 22½ degrees, 45 degrees and 67½ degrees.

The third stage records an increase in weight of man by 100 per cent in five minutes, keeps it steady for two minutes and decreases it in five minutes and records his capacity to walk on inclined planes of 45 degrees and 67½ degrees and vertical planes.

Q. What is the speed of your Centrifuge?

A. The maximum speed is 30 rounds a minute but till now I have generally given a speed of 22 rounds a minute.

Q. How many persons have been tested by you?

A. I have tested so far 1000 persons. I take care to allow only healthy persons.

Q. What is the total cost of the Centrifuge?

A. Normally it would have cost well over a lakh of rupees but I tried my best to economise. My wife Mrs. Padmavati Padhey helped me. My children also helped me and so also numerous other friends.

I used only indigenous material and fabricated all machines and tools. I engaged labour only for excavation and masonry work while all other work was done by me personally. My wife has always helped me.

Q. How does your Centrifuge differ from those in the advanced countries and what are your future plans?

A. As far as I know, nowhere in the world is there a Human Centrifuge with an accommodation to test 50 persons. I have built such a Centrifuge to make the common man space-minded.

Majlis To Join Muslim League To Pressurise CONGI

By Our Correspondent

HYDERABAD: The Ittehadul Muslameen of Hyderabad (popularly known as the Majlis) wants to join the Indian Muslim League and other Muslim organisations to pressurise the CONGI for more concessions during the forthcoming elections.

Even if the Majlis does not merge with the Muslim League, when it is revived, it wants to be one of its federating partners.

The Majlis intend to exploit MRS. GANDHI's present dependence on the Muslim League in Parliament and Kerala to enter into a more profitable arrangement with Chief Minister BRAHMANANDA REDDY.

The Majlis has three seats in the State Assembly today and the three MLAs wield considerable influence in Mr. Reddy's Court. One of them is a member of the Osmania University Syndicate and another is a member of the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation.

In the State Assembly, the Majlis's members toe the line of the establishment on all major issues. In the next elections they want the CONGI to back its candidate to the Lok Sabha from Hyderabad constituency and two or three more in other predominantly Muslim pockets in the city and elsewhere.

Haryana Muslims take to Family Planning in a big way

By Our Correspondent

CHANDIGARH: The Meos (Muslims) of Gurgaon district in Haryana have taken to family planning in a big way, despite the vicious propaganda by some fanatic Ulemas from Deoband in U.P.

The Meos who constitute a sizeable percentage of the population of Gurgaon district, were deadly opposed to family planning till last September and not a single Meo, man or woman, had taken to it since the campaign was launched over a decade back.

These Meos had completely boycotted family planning, the use of any kind of contraceptives or sterilization, under the influence of the Ulemas from Deoband, who had been visiting this district regularly to campaign against the measure. The Ulemas preached against to family planning in mosques, after the Friday congregation prayers, and in street corner meetings. They had impressed the simple but hardworking Meos, that to resort to family planning was anti-Islamic and against the teachings of the Prophet and the Quran.

Consequently, not a single Meo took to family planning in the entire district. However Haryana's Health Minister, MR. KHURSHID AHMAD, himself a Meo, countered the propaganda by convincing the local and influential religious leaders of the Meos, about the benefits of family planning. Before the beginning of the 'Family Planning fortnight' last September, almost all the local religious leaders were fully convinced and offered to get themselves sterilized. They also asked their followers to do likewise. During the fortnight, over 5000 Meos, both men and women, took to family planning.

Now, Gurgaon district, once at the tail end of the family planning graph in Haryana is leading the other districts in this sphere. More and more Meos, particularly purda-clad women, are coming forward for loop insertions and sterilization. Since the Meos' revolt against the Ulemas, not a single Deoband Ulema has visited Gurgaon.

Punjab Can't Sell State Lotteries Abroad

NEW DELHI: The Union Government has turned down the Punjab Government's request for permission to sell its State lottery tickets abroad.

The Government of Punjab made a request to the Union Government some time ago. It was of the view that the sale of tickets abroad would enable Indians residing abroad to purchase them. Foreign exchange could also be earned through such sales.

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CONGI MPs From Telengana In Trouble

If they don't desert Mrs. Gandhi now, they'll have no chance in Mid-term Poll

By Our Correspondent

HYDERABAD: The CONGI MPs from Telengana have today become an object of pity. Their continued flirtations with the Central leadership is going to be their undoing in the mid-term poll if it comes.

Dr. M. Chenna Reddy, Chairman of the Praja Samithi, has already given them a grim warning. If they do not make up their minds immediately and sit in the Telengana United Front Bloc in Parliament they will just be swept off their feet in the next poll.

Two Deputy Ministers from Telengana **Mr. M. R. Krishna** and **Mr. Yunus Salim** have been playing opportunistic politics in relation to the Praja Samithi. And so are the majority of CONGI MPs from the region. Out of 14 Lok Sabha members from Telengana all except two stand for separation. Out of these 12 only two are with the Opposition — **Raja Rameswara Rao** (CONGO) and **Mr. Bakar Ali Mirza** (Ind.). Others are all with the CONGI.

Months back the Praja Samithi had issued a directive to the

V. B. Raju

pro-Telengana MPs to quit the CONGI and form themselves into a separate Telengana United Front Bloc in Parliament under the leadership of **Mr. V. B. Raju**. The directive was ignored by all of them except Mr. Raju who was returned to the Rajya Sabha in the biennial elections on the TUF ticket.

Though he has been ideologically always close to MRS. GANDHI he has been implicitly obeying the Samithi directive on this matter. But not so the other CONGI MPs who wish to have the best of both the worlds. When they come to Hyderabad these MPs attend the Samithi meets, address public meetings from separatist platforms and abuse the Chief Minister. When they go to Delhi they try to strengthen the hands of Mrs. Gandhi in the name of Socialism.

Double standards

While MLAs and MLCs believing in separation immediately came out of the CONGI following the Samithi directive and swelled the Opposition ranks in the State legislature, the MPs adopted double standards.

The armchair politics of Telengana MPs have not only irked Dr. Chenna Reddy but also the mass of students who form the backbone of the separatist movement. During the agitation the students of Telengana sacrificed the most and their representatives in Parliament the least. Their failure to muster courage even to sit in the Opposition has completely alienated them from the rank and file of the Samithi.

If they do not desert the sinking ship of Mrs. Gandhi in time the chances are that majority of them will be denied Samithi tickets in the mid-term poll. It was with some justification that the Chief Minister MR. K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY recently impressed upon Mrs. Gandhi to discipline her MPs from Telengana. Either they should quit the CONGI if the cause of separation was so dear to them, he is reported to have told her, or they should toe the party line and stop sniping at him in State politics.

In the context of politics of defection, the Samithi does not wish to take any risk as far as its choice of MPs is concerned. In the coming poll those MPs whose love for Mrs. Gandhi is greater than their loyalty to the cause of Telengana will be mercilessly weeded out. After Siddipet the mood of the Telengana electorate is such that it is not prepared to tolerate any quislings within its ranks.

Recently the general body of the Telengana United Front met here under the Chairmanship of Mr. Raju and unanimously appealed to the Praja Samithi to implement its directive in relation to the MPs. Nothing tangible has come out of this decision.

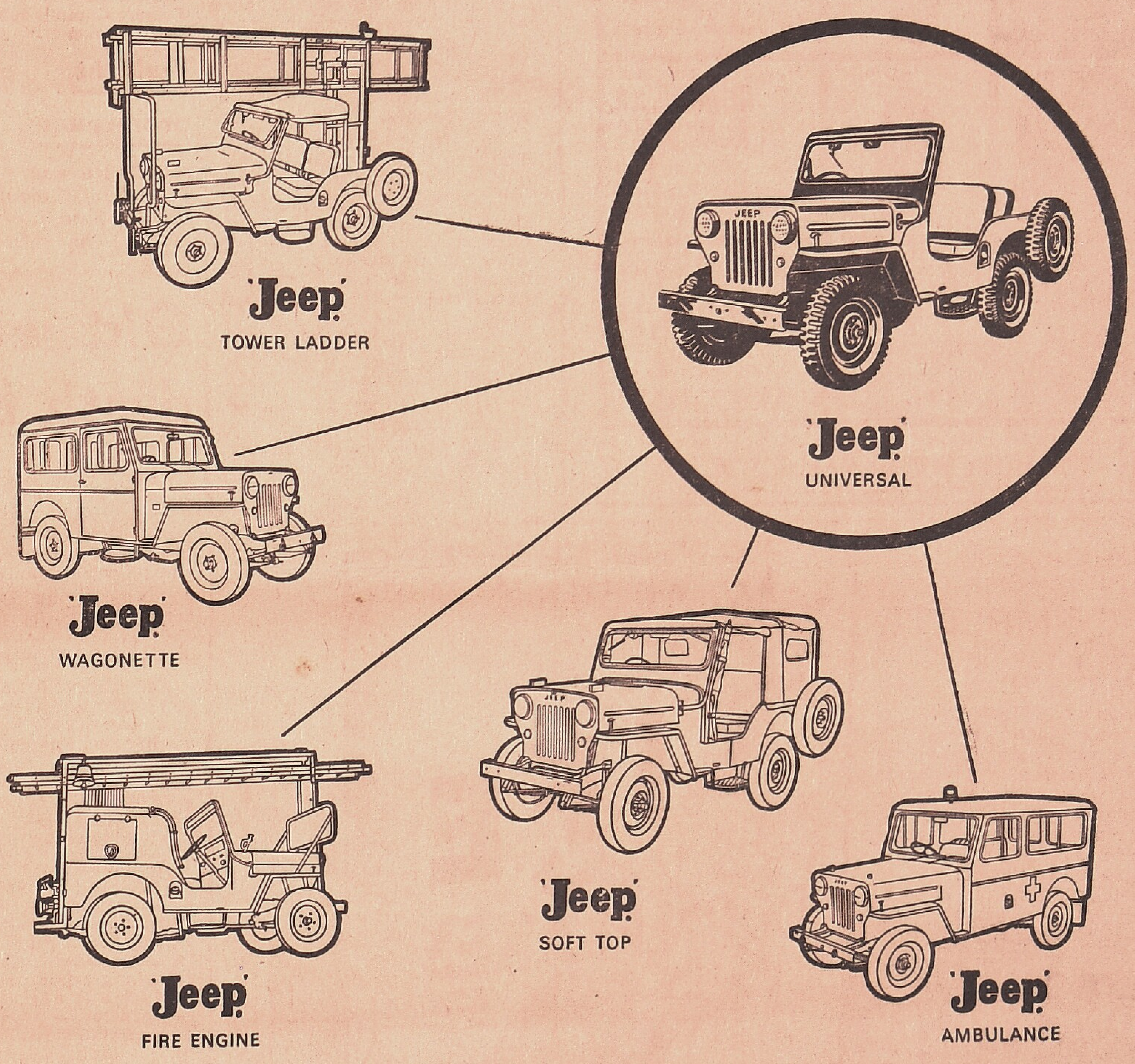
The MPs are out to kill some more time. They vainly seem to believe that within months Mrs. Gandhi would offer Telengana on a platter and in that case they will not be required to invite her ire by quitting the CONGI. If she does not, they will jump on the bandwagon of the Samithi at the time of the poll, while internally promising ultimate support to Mrs. Gandhi.

The electorate of Telengana has become much more alert after Siddipet. It is swallowing the statements of the MPs with a large pinch of salt. That is why the recent statement of Union Deputy Minister Mr. Yunus Salim in Indore that ultimately, a separate Telengana will have to be conceded, failed to cut any ice with the Samithi leadership here.

In its heart of hearts the Samithi does not want a solution of the Telengana tangle till after the 1972 general elections. It knows that if an acceptable solution were to come right now, the existing CONGI leadership of the region—which has become rotten and opportunistic to the core—will rehabilitate itself overnight. The young leadership of the Samithi wants to exploit the euphoria created by the agitation last year to the maximum, to wipe out from the political scene the existing discredited leadership in the CONGI from Telengana.

This mood of the students and others has already made the CONGI politicians of the region apprehensive about their future. If the present mood continues, barring one or two, no Telengana Minister will be returned in the next election.

And the same fate might befall the MPs as well. There was a time when the Samithi leadership used to run after its MPs in the hope that they might be able to do something for its cause at Delhi. Now it is the turn of the MPs to run after the Samithi for tickets. It is the only horse to back in Telengana today.



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"Dead Eyes" Lunged For The Packet

(*Continued from page 15*)

broke into a sweat of fear and moved away, but he caught her arm.

"The tall one is here," he said. **"Someone may have talked. Maybe someone is you."**

"No, no", she protested, praying that her friends were near.

"You were in the apartment of that *loco* drummer and so was the tall one," he accused. "You are in line for punishment."

"You wouldn't dare!" she declared.

"So they have promised to protect you," he began, but she tore loose, and joined the Colonel's chauffeur at the bar. She glanced in the mirror. The man with the dead eyes watched malignantly and he saw her slipping a small parcel into the chauffeur's pocket.

2 shots rang out

Then "dead eyes" lunged for the packet. A knife flashed in his hand, but the chauffeur was ready. Two shots rang out. The knife-hand dropped, shattered at the wrist. Two men threw him to the floor and Col. Harriton came on the run.

Panic threatened, but the Colonel led the way to the dressing-room at the rear of the platform and the two men dragged "dead eyes" with them. Enamorado hurried and so did Zara. She was hysterical.

"I'll tell! I'll tell everything!" she shouted. **"Did you see? He tried to kill me."**

"The address! There isn't much time!"

"Calle Plutarco, 61, in Marianao."

"You heard, Captain Barrios," said the Colonel. "Let's go!"

It took two cabs to hold them all, and when they got there the Captain soon had everything under control. On the desk was a pile of papers and in the metal basket a heap of smoking ashes.

"We were none too early. They were getting ready to pull out," the Captain surmised.

"The rest of the diamonds, Captain, if you please," requested the Colonel. Barrios fished in his pocket and came up with the other rattle. The Hon. Jose Santese reached out for it.

"Accent on diamonds again. Not so fast!" cut in the Colonel.

"My prerogative——"

"Not till the case is closed. They're Exhibit A."

"But you've caught the criminals!" The Honorable One was angry.

"Only the small fry. The murderer is still loose."

"You mean Capt. Barrios—" The Captain looked up in amazement.

"His only offense is too great an interest in diamonds," said the American. "I think he's learned his lesson."

"Then who——"

"You——**Baron!"**

"Are you mad? My credentials——"

"No good, Baron Von Lehman."

"Why Von Lehman, he's dead!"

"No, Baron, you're very much alive—yet. You killed Honorable Jose Santese after he arrived at the airport and swapped credentials. You should have swapped clothes, too. Those New York labels convinced no one. Unfortunately for you, sticking close to me got you nothing but a crack on the head in my hotel room. We're holding the thugs for the murder of Little Antonio. And for you, Baron—no diamonds. Only a Cuban cell—if the War Crimes Commission will release you. Personally, I doubt it."

Twilight promenade

All Havana walked the twilight promenade and so did Enamorado and Graciela. That afternoon Col. Harriton sent word he would like the drummer to come to his hotel. He went, and there was Graciela with the American.

After an exchange of friendly greetings, Enamorado asked: "Was the stout Nazi with the other conspirators?"

"Originally yes. But this diamond deal was too big for him, and all bets were off. He was on his own."

"So much wealth is not good," mused Graciela. "I will be poor, but I will be happy."

"There's a reward"

"Not too poor," said the Colonel. **"You know why I sent for you? There's a reward, a big one, for the return of the diamonds. There are papers to sign."**

Later on Graciela and Enamorado strolled down the Malecon till they could go no further. Battering winds roared out of the sea and flung great masses of water over the seawall. Overhead angry clouds scudded along. The drummer held her arm tightly. Soothing peace sang through him and twined with it all a lovely face with great eyes smiling. He turned and kissed Graciela with gusto.

CONCLUDED

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Old woman hacked to death by the Naxalites

By Our Correspondent

SIMLA: According to Intelligence reports the extremist Naxalites have found fertile soil for their activities in the tenancy pockets of Kangra, in Himachal Pradesh.

After a lull of about two months, they have again become active in some areas of the Pradesh adjoining Punjab. During the last few weeks, these extremists have committed a number of murders in some border villages.

According to these reports, recently, an old woman was hacked to death in Una tehsil, while she was asleep in her house. It was stated that the Naxalites had meant to murder someone else, but killed the old woman by mistake. No arrests have been made so far.

In another case, MR. GULAB CHAND, a landlord, was shot dead in one of the villages while he was coming back from his farm at dusk. According to the police, while he was returning home along with his brother and a servant, he was stopped by a group of armed people and shot at close range. Mr. Gulab Chand's brother who was armed with a rifle, challenged the assailants and fired shots at them. One of them was injured and fell down. He was later recognized as a student of the tenth class in the same village and was admitted to a hospital where he confessed he had joined the Naxalite gang.

According to some official reports the police have arrested a number of people, mostly young men, as suspected Naxalites from Punjab. Following successful operations by the Punjab police to annihilate the Naxalite menace in the State, a number of their leaders have crossed over to Himachal Pradesh and taken shelter in some of the forests on the border. These thickly wooded forests have provided a natural shelter for these extremists and they have started operating from these hide-outs. While the Punjab police have tightened their ring around the Naxalites, the latter have now started operating from this side of the border and declared a 'guerilla peasant war' in the State.

Early this month, the police arrested a college student in a Kangra village for possessing a time-bomb and a couple of foreign-made hand-grenades. It is said that he was a prominent member of a Naxalite gang and at the time of his arrest, was going to pass on the explosive material to his group leader. According to the police, some of the recently arrested persons had confessed that they had planned to blast the Beas Power Project, which is under construction, Sundernagar Police Station and some other Government buildings. Some of them also confessed having sent threatening letters, to some local landlords and businessmen, demanding huge sums of money as ransom.

Naxalite posters appear again

With the crossing of a number of prominent Naxalites from Punjab into Himachal Pradesh, **Naxalite posters have again started appearing in a number of villages on the border.** These posters handwritten and typed, are in English, Hindi and Punjabi with slogans like "Naxalbari Zindabad. Our path is armed revolution and Blood for Blood" have been pasted on Government offices and educational institutions and have been issued by the Punjab unit of the Red Guards.

In some villages in Kangra district, posters frequently appear in Punjabi demanding huge sums of money from businessmen, traders, landlords and rich merchants. In these, the Naxalites warn that if the money is not paid within a specified time, they the businessmen, etc. will be shot and looted. In panic, the latter have sought police protection.

According to Intelligence reports a large number of people including some young men, students and ex-servicemen from some of the villages adjoining Punjab, have been sent to West Bengal for training in Naxalite activities and in the use of fire-arms and conventional weapons.

Big Business

By "Tycoon"

After Small Car, Now All-Home-Made Scooter

After the proposal to manufacture an all-indigenous small car (there is actually a big question mark about this, as one of the two licensees, MR. MADAN MOHAN RAO of Madras, has already announced he would be approaching the Government for foreign exchange to make his proposal feasible), there has now emerged the move to make an entirely home-made scooter.

This has come from what has been described as a team of enterprising unemployed engineers, diploma holders and technicians of Kerala. They have formed an industrial co-operative society and already succeeded in manufacturing an indigenously developed scooter. **Named ATLANTA 120, their product claims a price advantage of Rs. 500 over the LAMBRETTA. There is to be, of course, some dependence on imports, for just two of the components, whose cost is placed at Rs. 150.**

But even these—carburettor and magneto flywheel — the makers of the first all-India-made scooter hope to find at home from next year, when **Escorts**, at Faridabad, and another concern at Bombay start manufacturing these two parts.

Already, 600 Atlanta 120 scooters are expected to be manufactured by the team over the next 12 months, and in the next 'few' years, the production is expected to be raised to 6,000 per annum.

However, some 200,000 people are estimated to be on the scooter producers' waiting lists at present. On the other hand, applications from the two major units—**Bajaj** and **Automobile Products**—to raise their output to 100,000 and 60,000 scooters, respectively, from 30,000 now, has taken an unduly long time to process by the Government.

The entry of Atlanta 120 in the market, if successful, will thus do nothing much to help relieve the acute scooter shortage. People, actually, will not mind paying Rs. 500 more, which is the price advantage Atlanta 120 claims over the existing makes, if they are promised a scooter without their needless queueing up.

The makers of Atlanta 120 have quite ambitious plans, however. They hope to diversify production in such a way that the 1,200 odd components of their scooter will be produced by the co-operative's family units spread over the entire countryside of Kerala. **They also plan to go in 'shortly' for the manufacture of boats, automobile components and foundry equipment, and, finally, set up a civil engineering construction unit. In all, 10 ventures are proposed to be established by them in the future.**

The membership of the co-operative society of these engineers is open to all the unemployed technicians in Kerala. Any technician, to be employed by this co-operative, has to become its member and a shareholder. At present, there are said to be 500 shareholders.

Audit of Partnership Firms, Too ?

People are increasingly turning to partnership as a form of business organisation, in preference to limited companies, because of the high rate of taxation for the latter.

So, **the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India** has proposed that, like joint stock companies, partnerships should also be made subject to accounts auditing.

The Institute has already made a representation on these lines to the Union Minister for Law and Social Welfare, **Mr. K. Hanumanthaiya**, and the Minister in the Ministry of Finance, **Mr. V. C. Shukla**, and has been assured by them that the matter would be processed at an early date.

The **Administrative Reforms Commission** has recommended compulsory audit of accounts for all non-corporate assessees, having an income of more than Rs. 50,000. Earlier, the **Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee** as well as the **Income-Tax Investigation Committee** had also made a similar recommendation.

The Chartered Accountants' Institute has backed this recommendation, ostensibly in order to help the Government check any tax evasion. **But behind its backing also lies the scarcely concealed concern for its constituents' professional interest. A better service by the Institute would, however, have been to tell the Government that tax evasion cannot end till the rates of taxation remain penal.**

Govt.'s main concern is to reduce foreign participation in the cigarette companies

(Continued from page 11)

production went down in 1969 as compared with the previous year? Less production, more profit."

With regard to ITC's production, Mr. Bosu stated that production went up by 7 per cent whereas profits went up by 70 per cent in 1969 as compared to 1967.

He also stated that the share of the foreign sector in the cigarette production came down from 76 per cent in 1957 to 68 per cent in 1964, "but it has again gone up from 68 to 80 per cent in 1969". He wanted Government to state how this happened.

Mr. K. Lakkappa (PSP) pointed out that **Mr. M. R. Krishna,** the Minister, had stated that the Government's declared policy was to encourage the production of cigarettes in Indian-owned firms and that Government was also encouraging the establishment of companies which are 100 per cent Indian-owned. **He complained that "all our money is going outside".**

Completely Indian

Mr. Lakkappa therefore wanted to know whether the Government was serious about the need that foreign-owned companies should be dealt with very severely, and whether they would see that Indian shares in these companies are increased until they are completely Indianised.

On behalf of the Government, the Deputy Minister for Industrial Development and Internal Trade (**Mr. M. R. Krishna**), replied. Midst interruptions he stated that **these companies (ITC and Vazir Sultan) had taken advantage of a circular issued by the Ministry, in which they have said that the companies can produce upto the licensing capacity and they can also expand to the extent of 25 per cent of the licensed capacity.**

Mr. Krishna added: "There, one clarification was made which is very, very pertinent and very important. As far as the Indian companies are concerned, they can expand this 25 per cent in any form they like, and they can even diversify, whereas in the case of the foreign-controlled companies, they will have to produce 25 per cent only in the same product. They cannot diversify. . . ."

Minority Share

Mr. Bosu intervened to say: "Your circular does not say that."

Mr. Krishna went on to say that Government's main concern today was to reduce foreign participation in these companies, whether it is Vazir Sultan or ITC. "When Vazir Sultan has come forward for expansion, this is the condition we prescribed, namely that they will have to bring down their foreign participation to a minority share."

Repatriation of Profits

Mr. Krishna continued: "If in a company which was 100 per cent British-owned like ITC, efforts are made to reduce it to 58 per cent, it should be appreciated. If the House wants to pass a legislation nationalising everything, it is a simple matter; it can be brought before the House in one sentence and passed."

But Mr. Krishna pointed out that it was not as simple as Mr. Bosu thought.

With regard to repatriation of profits, in three years, he revealed that there was repatriation of Rs. 3.5 crores. He added: **"There has also been export of about Rs. 31 crores of tobacco by the same companies."** Mr. Krishna added that it was a sincere effort by Government to bring down the quantum of repatriation.

Mr. Kesri intervened to ask whether the Government of A.P. had asked for expansion for Vazir Sultan, but he also stated that the State Government might increase its share capital in Vazir Sultan, which is now about 8 to 9 per cent of the capital investment.

Mr. Krishna said that this was an exercise which had to be done by Government in order to increase Indian participation in these companies, adding: "It automatically means expansion". He clarified: "We are trying to encourage Indian participation and minimise foreign participation in these companies".

Referring to Golden Tobacco, Mr. Krishna said that it "has increased by leaps and bounds and it deserved credit". He said that Golden Tobacco was a 100 per cent Indian company and "we (Government) would like to give all encouragement to them."

Mr. Krishna assured Mr. Bosu that Government did not wish to conceal any information with regard to this matter.

Nepal to sign Trade Agreement with Pakistan

KATHMANDU: Nepal proposes to sign an agreement with Pakistan shortly for the export of high quality stone. The arrangement is likely to be arrived at shortly.

This was stated by MR. NAVARAJ SUBEDI, Nepal's Minister for Commerce and Industry, in an exclusive interview with INFA here.

Mr. Subedi said the stone, which is a waste in Nepal, will bring in badly needed foreign exchange worth Rs. 2 crores. The deal has been already negotiated with Pakistan.

"India, we hope, will not do anything to stall this agreement," Mr. Subedi added.

At present there is practically no trade between Nepal and Pakistan. During his recent visit to Nepal, President YAHYA KHAN had shown keen interest in promoting commercial relations with Kathmandu.

Dear Children

The Christmas Gifts

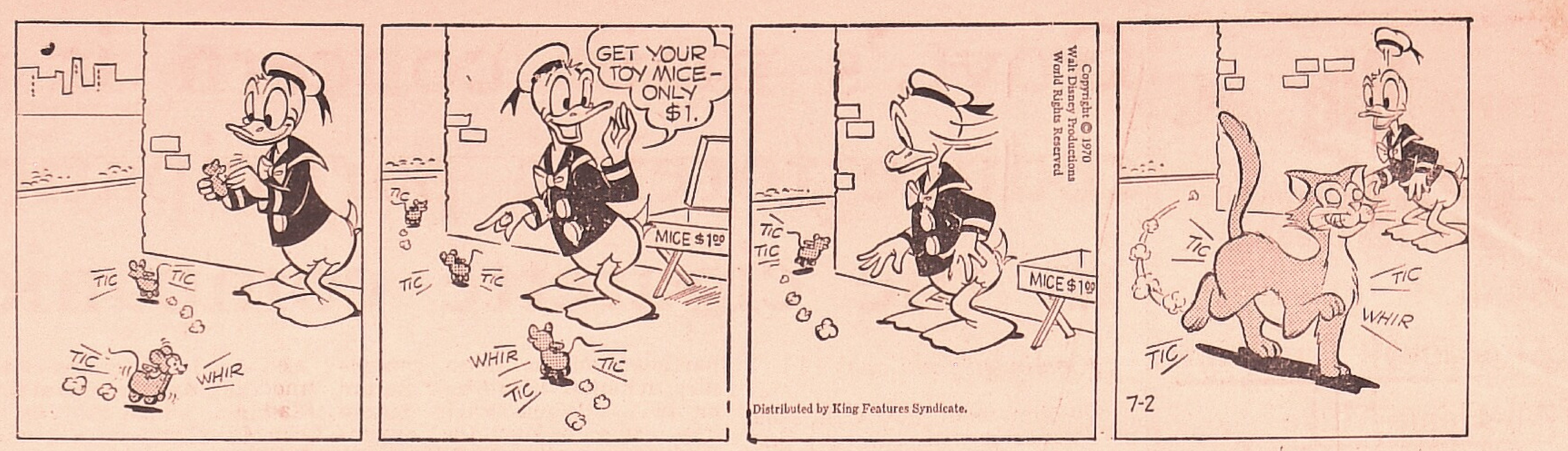
THERE is a very famous story by a very famous author which I thought I could tell you because it is about Christmas.

Once upon a time, there lived two people who had very little money, but a lot of love for each other. One Christmas, they each secretly decided to give each other a gift as a token of their love. The husband thought he would sell his watch (his watch strap was worn out anyway), and buy his wife's gift, and she decided to cut off her beautiful long hair and sell it.

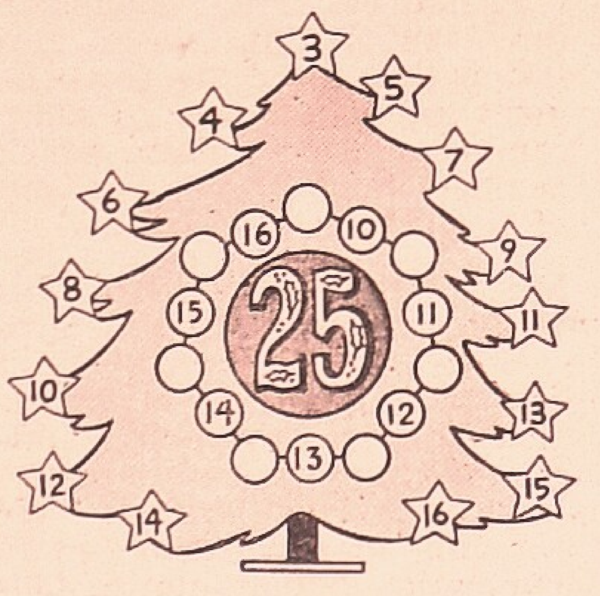
And that is exactly what they did. The husband sold his watch, the thing he loved next to his wife, and his wife sold her hair, which she had been carefully growing for years.

And guess what they bought each other? The husband gave his wife a beautiful comb for her beautiful hair, and the wife bought her husband a beautiful watch strap!

Wasn't that ironic?



Tree Trimming



Here's a Christmas tree you can trim right now. It looks easy with just seven ornaments remaining to be hung. But appearances may be deceptive. Object is to insert the numbers 3 through 9 in the seven blanks so that each straight row of three numbers totals 25. Time limit: Three minutes.

Answer:

From top, clockwise: 6, 10, 9, 11, 5, 12, 8, 13, 4, 14, 7, 15, 3, 16.

Santa's Beard

Let's say Santa shaved his beard. If whiskers grow four-thirds of an inch in five months, how long will it take him to grow a four-inch beard?

Fifteen months.

Magi-cal Math To Ponder

GASPAR and BALTHAZAR paused to eat their midday meal. Their store of food consisted of eight small loaves, of which five belonged to Gaspar and three to Balthazar. Just as they sat down, MELCHIOR came by; was invited to share their meal.

Each ate an equal portion of the eight loaves. As they prepared to depart, Melchior offered the others eight pieces of money in payment. A friendly discussion arose as to the division of the money.

It was proposed that since Gaspar had five loaves and Balthazar only three, the money should be divided in that proportion. It was also suggested that since all had eaten equally, Gaspar and Balthazar should divide the money equally between them.

But Melchoir suggested a fairer division of the eight coins. What was that?

Answer:

Gaspar was entitled to seven coins, and Balthazar to one. For, the consumption of loaves being equal, each ate 8/3 or 2 2/3 loaves. Of the portion eaten by Melchior, Gaspar contributed 2 1/3 loaves and Balthazar only 1/3 loaf. Therefore, Gaspar contributed seven parts to Balthazar's one.

CHRISTMAS TEASERS

A unique Christmas tree made in Dallas, Texas, cost its owner more than $400. Of what was it made?

Thirtysix wigs.

* * *

This Christmas, visitors may note the legend AD 19 CMB 68 chalked over Australian doorways. What does it signify?

Anno Domini 1968—The Three Holy Kings protect this house.

* * *

If you're sitting on top of the world this Christmas, remember, it turns over every —— hours.

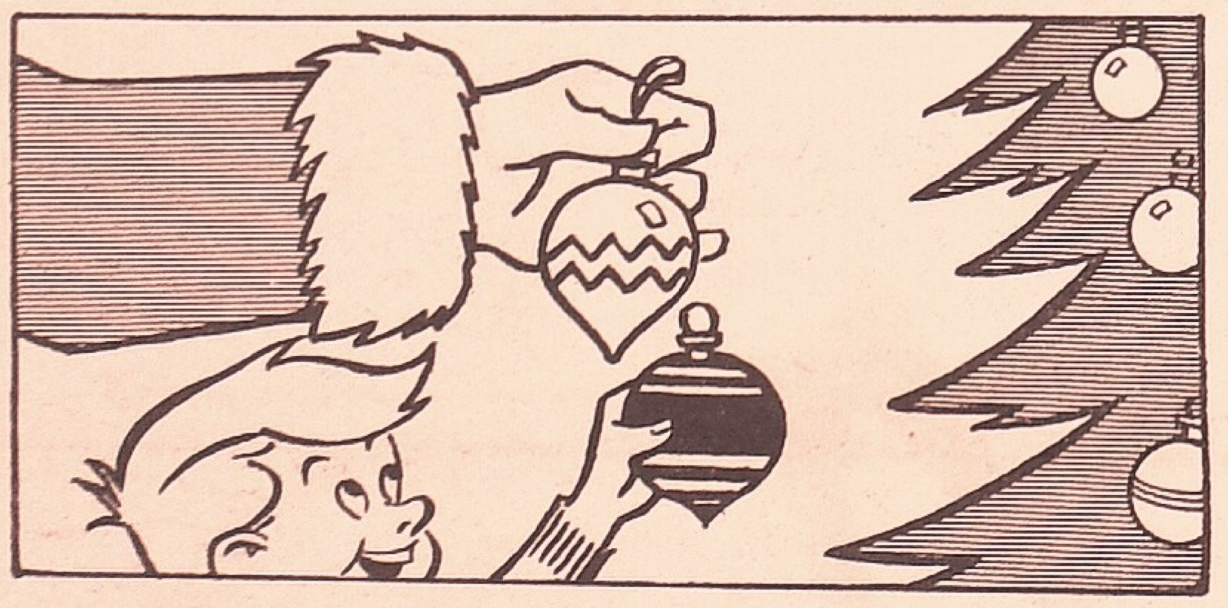
Twentyfour.

* * *

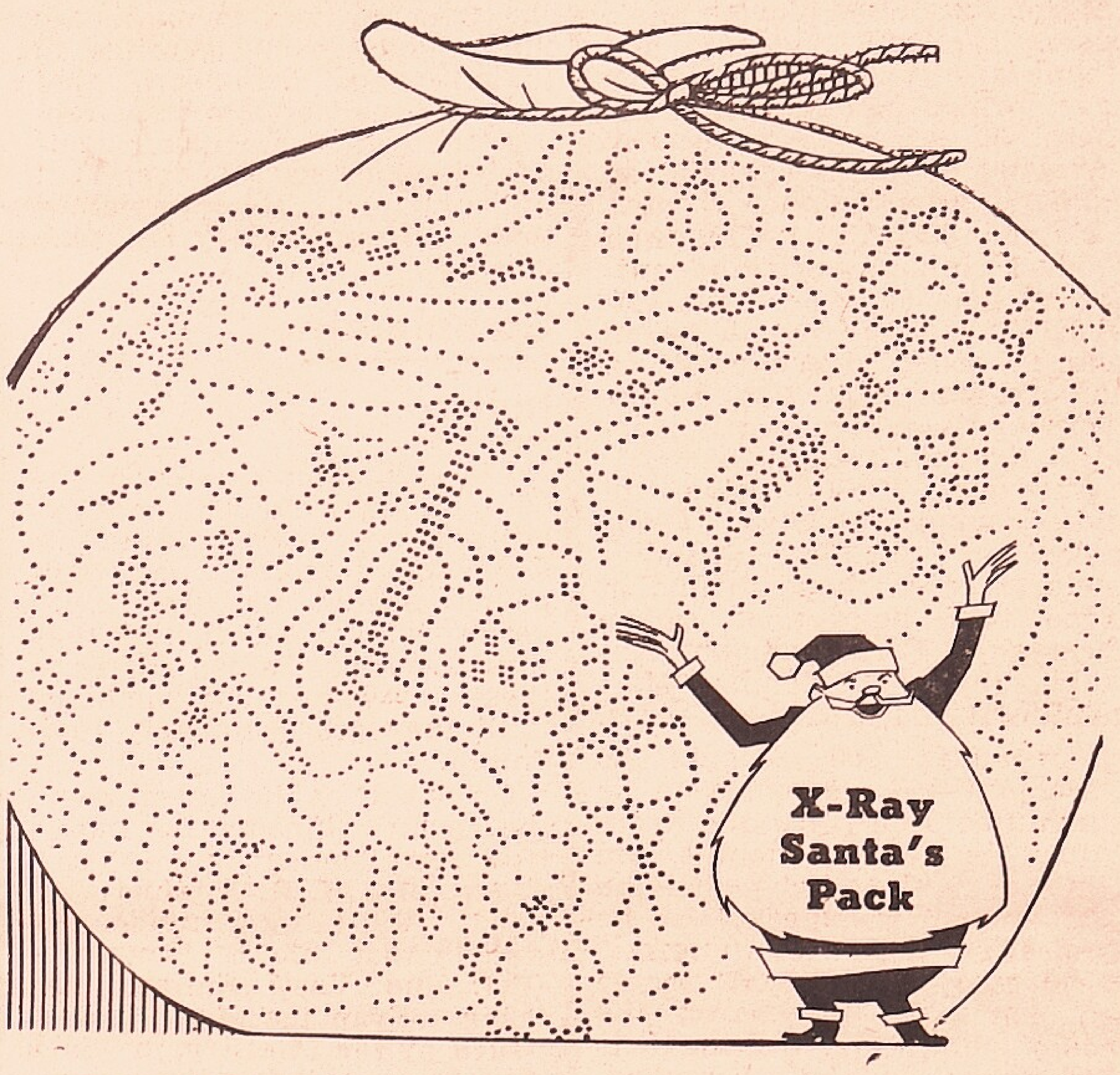
Fill the blank: "Secret and self-contained, and solitary as an —— ." Charles Dickens, "A Christmas Carol."

Oyster.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas



HEIGHT PROBLEM? The young man above is helping Santa decorate his tree, but he can't quite reach an inner branch. To lend him some aid, simply hold the diagram at eye level before you, fix your gaze on the black ornament in the boy's hand and bring the drawing slowly forward, that is, toward your nose.



FIX X-RAY EYES on Santa's pack, above, and see if you can identify its contents. Look closely and you will find a guitar, doll, rocking horse, drum, racing car, telephone, doll house, teddy bear, kitten, jet plane, sewing machine, punching bag, ironing board, piano. If a pencil (or crayon with a sharp point) is handy, trace over dotted lines to make them show.

The Women

Isn't She Pretty?

By Ratan Karaka

Hamilton Studios

Sulu Rao

ARE you tired of the the way you look? Perhaps you are. Then do something about it! Gear yourself into action! Change your look and a whole new life will open up for you.

For every woman there comes a time when she has to change; when she in a way, changes not only her looks, but her personality.

Usually the change comes at a time when the year is ending, when a woman looks forward to the New Year with joy and expectation.

Here is our simple Christmas story.

It is a story of how **Sulu Rao**, pretty, light brown-eyed, brown-haired housewife changed over and became sophisticated. She is young, lovely and vivacious, but she is tied down by the usual cares of a housewife—her husband, children, all that she loves.

This of course, leaves no time for personal attention. Attention to herself, to her figure, to her hair, nails, complexion, make-up.

She is the type of girl who dashes in to see a hair-dresser and says: "I want a quick hair-style. Please don't waste time." This unaffected girl has no time for a manicure or pedicure. No time for fashionable mornings, no time to make her skin glow.... No time for a Sauna bath at **Shape Clinic** for instance, but she is not bothered.

She wants to be the simple, conventional girl she is. In col. 5 is a picture of Sulu as she is. Her eyebrows unshaped, her eyes untouched, her hair worn in an ordinary bob, the length reaching a little below her ears. Her sari is a Calcutta **Dhanekhali** and her sleeveless, scooped out neckline blouse is the same colour as the background of her sari. Around her neck is **Mangalsutra**, (sign of marriage) her only ornament. On her forehead is the traditional **Tilli** or **kumkum** mark.

The Effort Was Worth It!

The Experiment

Now that Christmas is drawing near, we asked Sulu if she would let us experiment with her. She has the basic good looks and the basic stance of her neck is perfect; the high cheek bones are excellent for a model. She readily agreed, but said: "just for fun, I don't mind it; but really I have no time for fancy things."

We first made her bring her best sari; a beautiful rose-coloured Indian silk and matching rose-coloured choli. We had her eye-brows plucked and tinted with black eyebrow pencil. We made her change the colour of her lipstick and then off to the hair dresser we took her, where she succumbed to a trim, shampoo and set and her pic. in col. 1 & 2 shows the change. The beautiful 'mod' look is done for her by **Madame Jacques** of Bombay's Taj Mahal hotel.

Notice the swirling pieces on the forehead which was now pushed up and the hair towered a few inches over her head. There were swirling pieces coming down on her cheeks and over her tiny ears.

We next went to **Gazdar Jewellers** (Taj). There she agreed to model the beautiful modern Indian necklace seen in the picture. **The necklace comes from Jaipur and has beautiful enamelling in rose, green, and white. On each piece of this necklace there are rough-cut diamonds shaped like mangoes and bound in gold.** It has pearls above and below like a fringe. A tassel holds the necklace together. **This modern necklace is as beautiful on the inner side as it is on the outer side.**

Matching earings also in today's Jaipur enamelling in the shape of tiny chandeliers are worn.

With a little effort Mrs. Rao turns into the most serene and sophisticated young woman.

Hamilton Studios

Sulu Rao

Look upon her gentle face and wonder how so great a change was possible!

Therefore this week Mrs. Rao is our re-created Christmas girl.

Products of the week

Ari work on prints by the yard at **Indian Textiles.** Most colourful.

Ari work writing pads. Excellent. At **Artistic.**

Handloom prints for dusters to wear around the house at **Cottage Industries.**

Family Planning is India's first necessity

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(Random News Service)

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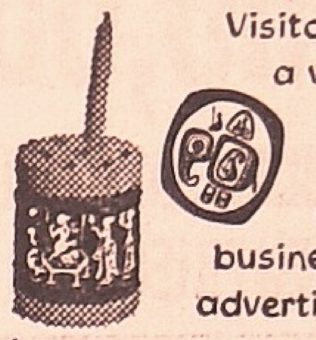
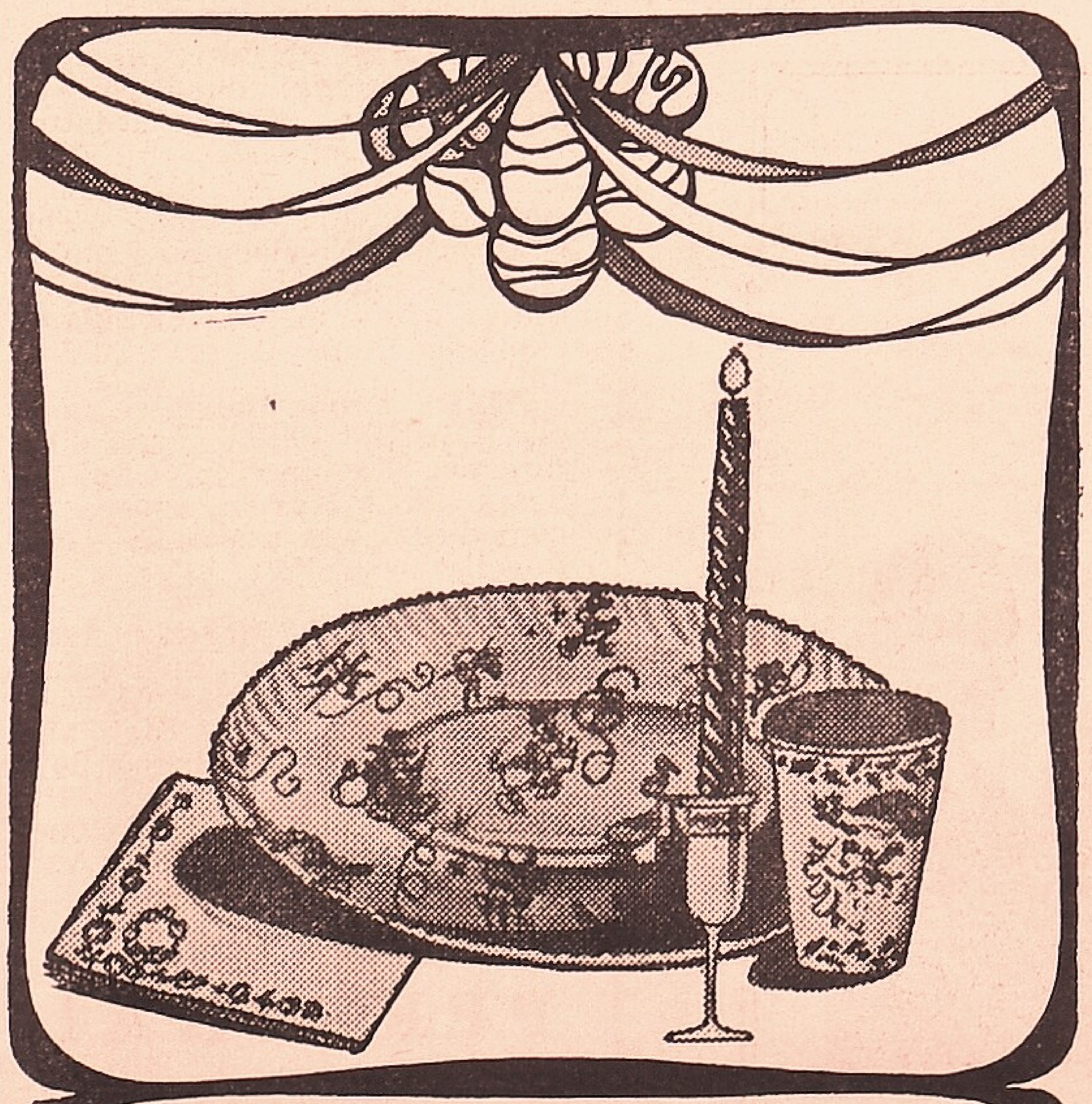


Visitors to bombay-a visit to 'Things' is a must. We also make give aways for business houses and advertising concerns.



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Lac Production Declines

NEW DELHI: There has been a decline in the production of lac in India during the past two years. The production for 1969-70 was 25,742 tonnes, as compared to 29,598 tonnes in 1968-69 and 38,779 tonnes in 1967-68.

The Government is finding it difficult to maintain a steady level of lac export around 17,000 tonnes. The export price was raised from 7½ per cent to 15 per cent in October last year.

A centrally-sponsored scheme is being worked out for improving the quality of lac cultivation.

Beethoven Bi-Centenary Celebrations In Bombay

BOMBAY: A special stamp on LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN was issued by the Posts & Telegraphs Department on December 16, 1970 to mark the bi-centenary of the renowned musician and composer. Above is a facsimile of the stamp.

The musician's bi-centenary is being celebrated the world over and in Bombay, the National Centre For The Performing Arts arranged a series of musical concerts, a film show and an exhibition featuring the composer's life and works.

The concert series was inaugurated last month when the celebrated violinist, **Yehudi Menuhin** and his sister **Hepzibah** performed at the Shanmukhananda Hall.

This month's programme included two splendid recitals by the **Cologne Trio—Max Rostal, Siegfried Palm** and **Heinz Schroeter.** The violin-cello-piano group have performed in Bombay before and in fact repeated, superbly, two numbers from that early recital, **"The tailor Kakadu"** and the **"Archduke Trio"**, after opening with an excellent rendition of the **Trio in E Flat Major** on the first day.

Louis Kentner's playing reflected a profound understanding of his composer, particularly his **Sonata in E Flat Major** (first day) and the popular **C Sharp Minor Sonata ("Moonlight").** Both pieces were very lyrically rendered, with the melodic line made almost graphic by the pianist's mastery over expression. There were times when the piano sounded like different instruments, including rippling water and distant bells.

In the midst of such an excellent musical reverie, it was therefore very disturbing to the pianist when some of the audience indulged in a low buzz of conversation and concerted coughing between the sonata movements.

Incidentally, for forthcoming performances, could the National Centre For The Performing Arts arrange to have musical and other sound recitals broadcast live over **All India Radio,** as is done in Delhi, for the benefit of people who cannot attend the shows?

did you enter **AFGHAN SNOW**'s unique 'name your order' contest?
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Books
AND AUTHORS

DAG HAMMARSKJOLD — Champion of World Peace by I. E. Levine (Ladder Series, Macfadden-Bartell Corporation, U.S.A.). Tells of the challenging, often frustrating job of one of the most distinguished Secretaries-General of the United Nations and his labour to establish world peace.

THE RISE OF SILAS LAPHAM by William Dean Howells (Ladder Series, Macfadden-Bartell Corp., U.S.A.). The moral and social conflicts of an ordinary small-town businessman who grows rich and important almost overnight.

PICNIC by William Inge (Ladder Series, Washington Square Press). How handsome Hal Carter wanders into a small town for a day, and brings excitement into the humdrum existence of the town's two important families, including the beautiful Madge Owens.

P. R.

10th Anniversary of Round Tables of India

The National Association of Round Tables of India celebrates its 10th Anniversary with the Annual General Meeting to be held at Shalimar Hotel, Bombay, on 26th and 27th December 1970.

The Round Table Movement was begun in 1926 by **Louis Marchesi,** a young Rotarian of Norwich, England, who felt that a need existed for a young men's organisation on the lines of Rotary. From Great Britain, the movement spread to other countries and **the first table in India was started at Madras in 1957. Today there are 21 tables in existence or under formation. The activities of the tables in India are co-ordinated by the National Association of Round Table India (R.T.I.).**

The City of Bombay has two tables, Round Table of Bombay No. 2 and Round Table of Bombay West No. 6. Round Table of Sion/Chembur No. 19 will be inaugurated on 26th December 1970 immediately prior to the A.G.M.

PEOPLE

IN TOWN: Mr. Thouvenot, President of the French Economic Mission to India, recently. He is also the Executive Vice-President of Merlin Gerin, a Tata concern. The mission has come to assess possibilities of increased trade between France and India.

Thouvenot

DIED: Suddenly in Bombay, **Tom A. Noonan,** 56, Cultural Affairs Officer of the United States Information Service. He collapsed at the wheel as he was driving home on the night of December 12. **In India since 1959, Noonan had been in charge of the Cultural Section of USIS, Delhi. In 1968 he came to Bombay, was well-known in art circles in the city.**

INDIAN CONSULTANT: For London's roads, talented 33-year-old **Sambamurthy Thyagarajan. He has a 5-year contract with the Greater London Council and will plan the city's roads at an annual salary of £7000 or Rs. 1,26,000!** Thyagarajan was, till recently, Planing Consultant and Project Co-Ordinator of the Wayne State University in America.

ROBBED: Of Rs. 70,000, film star **Mumtaz,** in her Bandra flat last week. The culprit was her servant **Mohammad** who she'd hired only 20 days before. Prettiest sex symbol of the Indian screen today, Mumtaz was out "shooting" when the theft occurred.

Mumtaz

DIED: Maharashtra educationist **M. K. Desai,** of a heart attack in Bombay, on December 14. He was 69. Principal of the R. R. High School for nearly 40 years, Desai had been appointed by the Government to translate **Gandhiji's** works from English to Gujarati. He had founded several educational institutions.

ABROAD

MARRIED: Nancy Sinatra, 30, pop-singing daughter of famed crooner **Frank Sinatra,** to **Hugh Lambert,** 40, T.V. choreographer. Second marriage for both of them. The ceremony took place on Frank's birthday. **"Daddy likes to give things away on his birthday",** explained Nancy later.

DIED: Paddy Carstairs, famous British actor and film director, 60. In films for 40 years, he appeared mostly in comedies, was a painter and novelist as well.

DIED: Field Marshal Lord Slim, 79, in London, on December 14. He was former Chief of the Imperial General Staff and Commander of the British 14th Army in Burma, during the Second World War. Also one-time Governor-General of Australia.

PERSONAL

THE Christmas Story. For Free leaflet apply Enquiry Forum, Section J, Wodehouse Road, Bombay 1.

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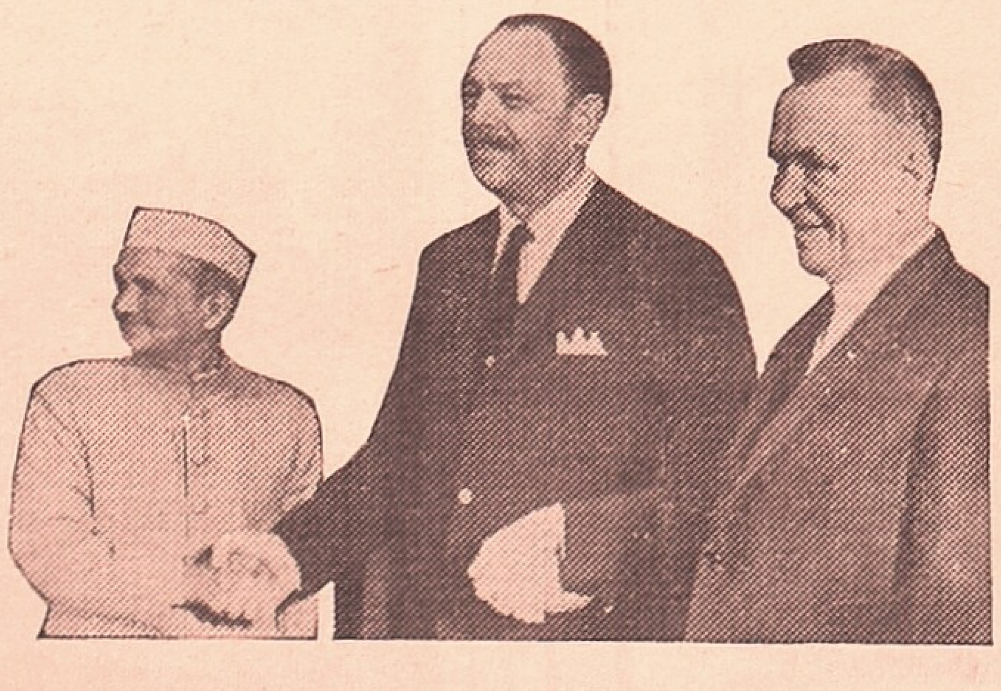
TASHKENT DAY ISSUE

The Tashkent Pact climaxed the eventful days of the last months of 1965. Five years after history was made at Tashkent on 10th January 1966, Dharmayug turns the spotlight on the drama enacted there.

In this special issue, Dharmayug, with the help of eminent thinkers, politicians, historians and journalists, takes an unbiased, critical look at the Pact. Providing ample background material on the Pact, Dharmayug analyses and evaluates its effects particularly in today's context. Above all, Dharmayug provides significant information on the Powers that participated, thereby shedding new light on the Pact.

Enhancing the issue are colour and black and white photos of people and incidents relating to this drama. Added attractions are selected contemporary poems from East Pakistan and a moving short story from West Pakistan.

An invaluable issue for its wealth of information, historical significance and present day relevance.



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Bid To Mobilise Student Support Against Naxalism In Jamshedpur

By Our Correspondent

JAMSHEDPUR: The Gandhi Peace Foundation, housed in an abandoned and unvisited room, once a dumping house for scavengers' brushes and broomsticks, had its second Naxalite attack last month. Unlike in the previous attack when bombs were used, Gandhian literature was burnt this time.

The Peace Foundation room belongs to the steel company and after two attempts on it, it is felt that the material in the building should be removed to the new Gandhi Centenary Building on the back of the Sabarnarekha, which has been built at the cost of several lakhs of rupees donated by the public. The Building was inaugurated by **Sir Jehangir Ghandy.**

It was discovered that most of the Naxalites belong to a large section of frustrated, yet politically conscious members of the student community. Sir Jehangir expressed his alarm at this fact when he stated at a recent meeting of the Eastern Regional Committee of the All-India Council for Technical Education, that if the problem of student unrest, which had now assumed large proportions, was allowed to continue unchecked it would ruin the entire educational structure of the country.

Student unrest

The problem of student unrest, he pointed out, was the joint problem of students and teachers and it was only they who could appreciate the problem and find a solution.

For this purpose, Sir Jehangir suggested the setting up of an "Organisation of Counsel and Guidance Services", explaining that if each senior teacher guided small numbers of ten to fifteen students who were keen about their education, they would certainly be able to mobilise a strong body of students and an equally strong and assertive student opinion to resist the mischief of a few.

The need of the day, he pleaded, was a continuous assessment of students during their educational careers, irrespective of the present system of examination that had now been reduced to a farce, due to the rampant unfair practices resorted to by the examinees.

Meanwhile, reports reaching here from different districts conclusively proved what CURRENT reported a couple of weeks back—that extremist adventurism was now swinging across the whole of Bihar after it was rendered inoperative in the rural areas of West Bengal.

Jamshedpur and its adjoining areas apart, a rich villager at Hazipur (Muzaffarpur) was killed and his two sons injured by Naxalites after he was openly warned of the coming attack. While the attack was on, the slogan of "Lal Salam" was raised.

According to another report, paddy worth about Rs. 50,000 was looted during the first fortnight of November in Hazaribagh district, under the alleged instigation of the CPI. The police reports tended to suggest that in this type of looting, all brands of Communists thought alike. In the northern districts of Bihar, Naxalism is widespread, particularly in Purnea and Monghyr, from where, reportedly, come the directives to the extremists.

But Jamshedpur is in the grip of intense panic for another reason. Following the murders of a few in this steel city by the Naxalites, the appearance of wall-posters justifying such murders in the Chotanagpur unit of the Jana Sangh, has thrown out a challenge to the Naxalites of "force to meet force". Two big processions were recently brought out, with each processionist armed to the teeth.

Grateful Thanks

(*Continued from page 1*)

was! Here we have been struggling week after week, grateful though we were for the various little gifts we received from the liftman of our building, from some of the juniormost members of our staff—and then, with one bang, one industrialist, whom we have never met but we have certainly heard of, reading CURRENT deep down in South India, decides to send us Rs. 1,439 so that we would reach—and cross—Rs. 20,000 before the year ended.

And so we have, my friends, wherever and whoever you may be. This news, we feel sure, will gladden your hearts just as much as it has gladdened ours. It is the single largest donation to date.

A member of the Princely Order in Rajasthan, who is a subscriber to CURRENT, sent us Rs. 5, together with the renewal of his annual subscription; from Shenoy Nagar, Madras 30, came a **M.O. for Rs. 5.** The M.O. slip sweetly added: **"I am sorry for the delay, but it is better to be late than never."** We feel almost embarrassed that he should apologise for the "delay". **These gifts come to us purely voluntarily and our attitude is to expect nothing, but to be grateful for what comes.**

By M.O. from Moradabad, U.P., came **Rs. 2;** also **by M.O. from Agapuri, Hyderabad,** came **Rs 2.** The donor only mentioned his initials.

From Besantnagar, Madras, came **Rs. 3** with the beginning of a new subscription.

A lady reader came to our office to give us **Rs. 20;** from a subscriber in Peddar Road, Bombay, **Rs. 4,** together with the renewal of his subscription.

Finally, **from Margao, Goa, Rs. 16,** together with the renewal of two subscriptions, one at the subscriber's Goa address, the other at his address in Bombay.

This took our total, as at Friday, December 18, to Rs. 20,111, GRATEFULLY RECEIVED.

—D.F.K.

Donations to "CURRENT"

Your TWO RUPEES, if you can spare them, are not too small for CURRENT to receive. To us, they mean a tonne of gold.

—D.F.K.

After Supreme Court's Verdict

Mid-term Poll Will Be A 'Shot In The Dark'

By Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Political tension grips the capital these days. The atmosphere, already surcharged with suspense over the likelihood of a mid-term poll and the CONGO's momentous decision to forge an alliance with the Jana Sangh and the Swatantra, is virtually crackling after the Supreme Court's judgement on the privy purses case.

After the initial outburst from politicians, ranging from a demand for **Mrs. Gandhi's** resignation to one for the "immediate" introduction of another Bill to abolish the privy purses, one thing has emerged with clarity: The Supreme Court's verdict is an indictment of the manner in which the government at the centre functions in regard to important policy matters. It in no way reflects on Parliament, although the ruling circles would have everyone believe that this was yet another case of the judiciary versus the legislature.

Mrs. Gandhi
"Full of surprises"

No slap

How has Mrs. Gandhi taken the privy purses verdict? It is a measure of the falling standards of Indian politics that the judgement is being considered not as a slap on the face of the Government, but, cynically, as an opinion against the "wishes of the people."

Indeed, it has produced little of the storm that was generally expected in the ruling political circles. All that the politicians are worried about is whether the Supreme Court's judgement will influence Mrs. Gandhi vis-a-vis a mid-term election.

According to informed sources, the Prime Minister is unlikely to be stampeded into performing any further political heroics. It is, more or less, certain that the government would not seek another legislation on the privy purses during the current session. Having learned the lesson of hasty decisions twice, Mrs. Gandhi would like to have a thorough study of the constitutional ramifications of another Bill before introducing it—in case she takes recourse to this at all. Such a course has been further necessitated by the opinion of two judges—Chief Justice **Hidayatullah** and Justice **Hegde**—that the abolition of privy purses may violate fundamental rights.

A more likely course, according to informed sources, is that the government would arrive at a negotiated settlement—something that falls within the ambit of Mrs. Gandhi's desire to react only through "constitutional processes."

It is said that, before the Supreme Court verdict was announced, the Princes Concord had already delivered a sealed cover to a close associate of Mrs. Gandhi, containing the Concord's proposals for a negotiated settlement. These proposals are now being studied by Mrs. Gandhi's advisers, and contacts between them and the princes are expected to follow.

Meanwhile, seeing how the "momentous" privy purses verdict has failed to ruffle Mrs. Gandhi unduly, some seasoned politicians have started taking the threat of a mid-term poll with a pinch of salt. Said one (a top leader from West Bengal): "Mrs. Gandhi uses the threat (of a general election) to keep MPs, especially Independents, from getting together and defeating her. This is because very few MPs want to go to the polls early."

But what this leader considered the "actual" reason for his discounting a mid-term poll was Mrs. Gandhi's "penchant for power". He remarked: "Mrs. Gandhi may be a political gambler. But she would never risk one more year of certain Prime Ministership for a doubtful five."

On a more political plane, some of her close supporters do not mind admitting that a mid-term poll now would be a "shot in the dark". From Assam to Punjab, it is pointed out, there is not a single State—barring tiny Haryana—that could be considered "safe". Even in the South, the position was no better, because the only party that might erode the DMK's strength this time would be the CONGO. Does this mean that an early poll can be ruled out? "No," is their paradoxical answer. "The lady," they pathetically add, "is full of surprises."

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Ratan Batra/Fc/E/338

India's best-ever all-round show at the Asian Games

By Maidan-me-chalo

THERE can be nothing but admiration and pride over our contingent's performance at the Asian Games. We may not have swept all the opposition aside and captured all the gold but for the first time our sportsmen have put up a worthy display and brought credit to the country.

Practically every Indian athlete has put forth his best. Even if all of them were not rewarded with medals, there can be no doubt that we have put up best-ever all-round show at Bangkok.

The biggest bouquet must go to our water polo team. They confounded the vast number of countrymen, including this humble scribe, who thought that their participation was a big waste of time and money.

The water polo team won a silver medal and this is a great achievement considering that they have had no international experience at all and had never been permitted to compete abroad despite the fact that they won the gold medal in the inaugural Asiad in New Delhi in 1950.

Likewise, one may feel elated over the feat of KAMALJIT SANDHU who became the first Indian girl to win a gold when she claimed the 400 metres.

Never mind the cynic who points out that Kamaljit won only because Taiwan's wonder athlete **Chi Cheng** collapsed 50 metres from the finish. Such mishaps are part and parcel of sport. Kamaljit won from a strong field nevertheless, beating back rivals from Israel, Japan and Taiwan with a brilliant finishing burst.

Our international debut in yachting was rewarded with a bronze claimed by Lt. Cdr. SOLI CONTRACTOR and Major AFSAR HUSSAIN in the Enterprise class. Our two boxers did extremely well; HAWA SINGH retaining the heavyweight title and MANUSWAMY VELU narrowly losing on points to a South Korean in the featherweight final.

Though they did not figure among the medals, the basketball team too deserves credit for a fighting display. The loss of **Kushi Ram,** voted the best player in the Asian Basketball Confederation Championships earlier this year, was a crippling blow. Kushi Ram sustained an eye injury just before the team's departure. Still India put up a courageous display.

There have been disappointments without doubt. The wrestlers fared poorly, giant **Chandgi Ram** winning the lone gold in the 100 kg. class. **Jit Singh** (90 kg.) claimed a silver, and **Netrapal** (82 kg.), **Mukhtiar** (74 kg.) and **Om Prakash** (68) a bronze each and this was a far cry from our brilliant sweep at the Commonwealth Games.

New squad

For one thing we sent an almost entirely new squad and for another the opposition in the Asian was much stronger, with Iran once again demonstrating their supremacy by winning as many as seven of the ten events.

Despite the tall claims made on their behalf, the cyclists came unstuck, though it must be said that they were handicapped by outdated machines and lack of international experience.

Still, one can well be pleased with the overall performance, especially when one takes into account all the chaos and bungling so typical of our officials and which placed a great strain on our athletes on the eve of their departure.

In view of the fact that so little attention is paid to athletics, we can be justifiably proud of the tally of 14 medals in this event, four golds, five silvers and five bronzes.

Joginder Singh (shot put), **Praveen Kumar** (discus) and **Mohinder Singh Gill** (hop, step and jump) all set new Games records and some of the rest failed to win despite bettering the previous marks.

The experience gained from the Commonwealth Games and the dual meet with visiting West Germans and the training camps have all helped. Our sportsmen have clearly demonstrated their potential. It is now up to the powers-that-be to give them every help and encouragement.

English schoolboys' entertaining display

The English Schoolboys' cricket team, now touring the country, are an endearing lot. They gave an entertaining display in the second "Test" in Bombay and won the hearts of the crowd. Though the match was drawn, they provided their Indian counterparts with some object lessons.

The visitors' batting was more functional than spectacular. There were no flourishes that we are accustomed to at home. Yet they cut, drove and pulled anything lapsing in length. Especially admirable was the knack with which they ran quick singles.

The English Scoolboys' fielding, too, was of a high order. The groundfielding was sound and most of them could throw straight to the keeper's gloves from the deep. Their slip catching was an invaluable ally to their thrustful medium-pacers. Thus it was that the Indian Schoolboys lost four wickets for only nine runs in the second innings and nearly lost the match.

Charles Rowe scored a century in just two hours. Opener **Jimmy Foat,** skipper **Tony Page,** left-hander **A. Butcher, J. C. Carter, J. R. Barclay** and keeper **A. Stovold** all shone with the bat. Without doubt this side has a tremendous potential for runs.

Medium-pacer **Booth** was the most successful with match-figures of eight for 86. **Dudley-Jones** looked a little quicker than him but was less fortunate. The only weak point of the side appears to be their spin attack. Perhaps they are yet to adjust themselves to our docile wickets.

The Indian Schoolboys deserved praise for the manner in which they fought back in both their innings. First they were four down for 91 before MUKUL DAS (59) and RAMESH BORDE (42) rallied the side to a total of 291, in reply to the visitors' 381 for six declared.

Then, set a target of 221 in 170 minutes, the Indian lads were in real trouble as they lost four wickets for only nine runs but left-hander **Anil Mathur** (not out 41), assisted by useful knocks by **Oberoi, Borde** again, **Iqbal** and **Botle** saved the day.

The home team's fielding was generally poor and the "Test" served to show up the neglect of our younger cricketers everywhere.

The English Schoolboys' Cricket Association team currently touring the country. Kneeling, second from left, is skipper Anthony Page. Manager H. W. Cooke is sixth from right and team administrator L. F. Fellows eighth from right.

BARBRA STREISAND in a big-hearted gay, old world musical "HELLO DOLLY", the X'mas attraction at the Sterling. Barbra Streisand, the inimitable singer and comedienne, plays the wily Dolly who has designs on a certain man and gets him in the end. Truly a fun and song-filled extravaganza.

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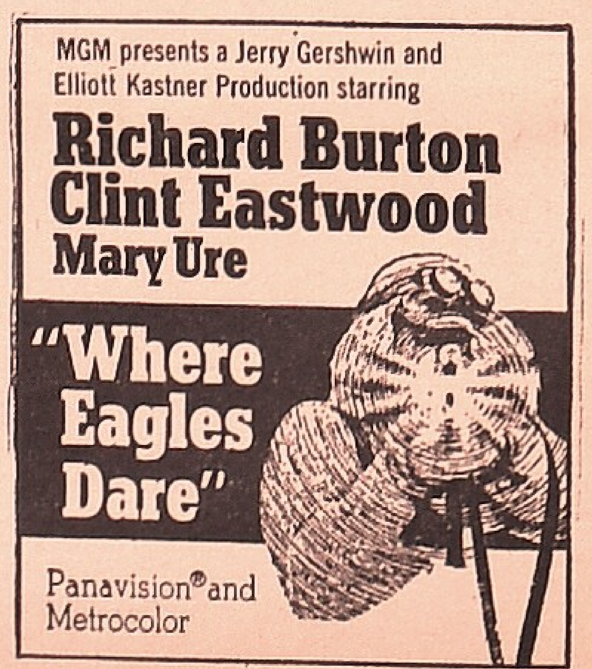
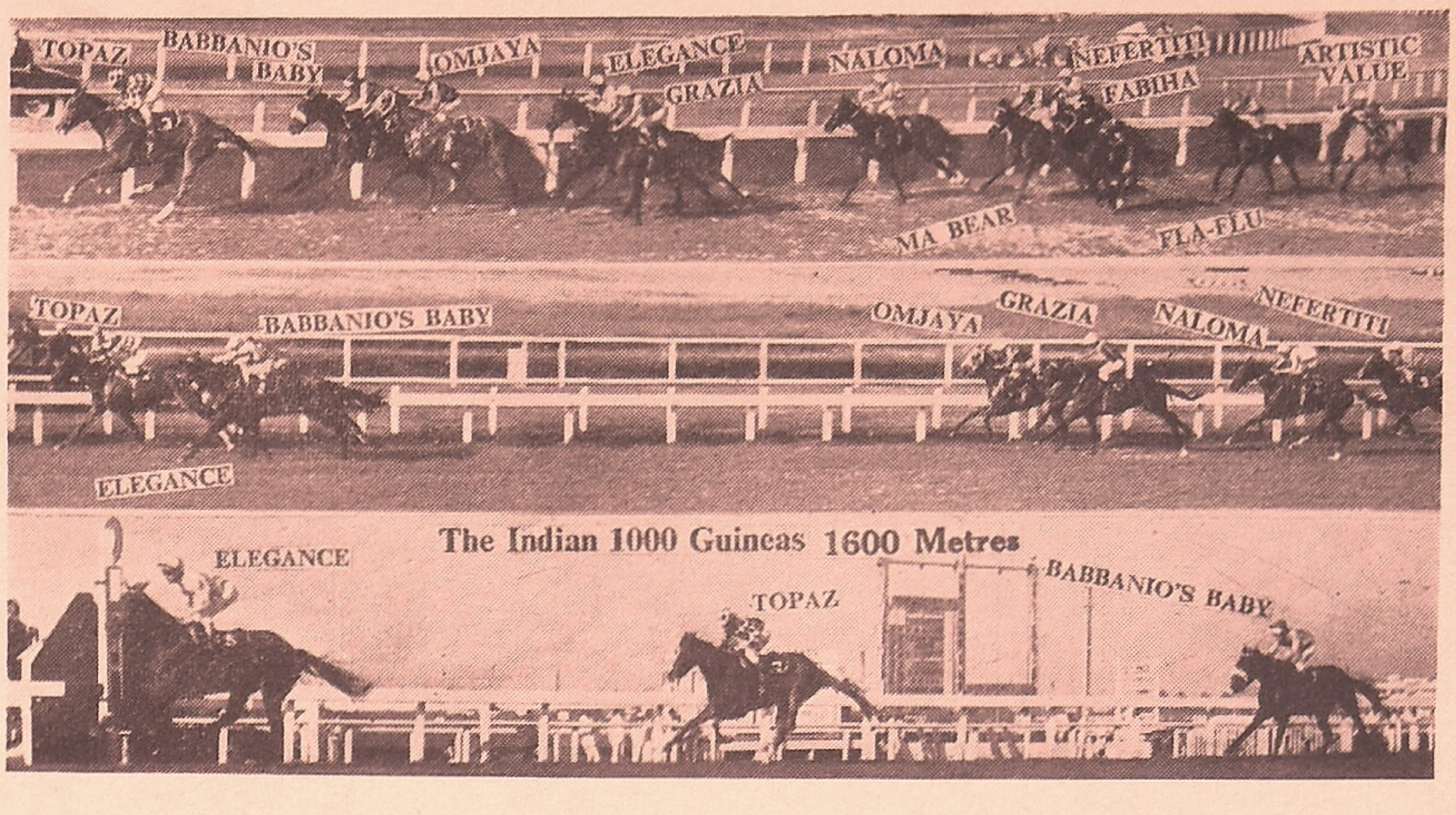


At Popular Admission Prices

Such Elegance !

By M. A. H. Laxmi

THE SENSATION of the 1969 Auction Sale of Bloodstock became the toast of the town last week when ELEGANCE proved true to her blood and her condition by winning the rich and prestigious 1,000 Guineas so impressively as to mark her a certainty for the Oaks and a serious contender against the colts if her shrewd trainer, MAJOR V. M. LAD, decides to take them on with her.



Pic: Counsic

At the bend, the distance and the finish; "Elegance" winning the Indian 1000 Guineas on December 20 at Mahalaxmi.

In fact, the first of the season's Classics was run almost exactly as most people thought it would be except that **Babbanio's Baby** was able to see the 1,600 metres trip out and **Fabiha** failed so dismally as to raise serious questions about her physical well being.

The second favourite, who was never in with a chance and finally beat only two of the 11 runners home, had her connections so confused and confounded by her show that they had her examined by the vet on the evening of the race. **She was given a clean chit by him but it is possible that a further examination after she cools off may indicate some ailment.**

The disgraceful run of the Asopo-Eiram filly made complete nonsense of the form book, was responsible for many red faces and sheepish grins.

It was too bad to be true, too puzzling to comprehend. Perhaps, we will be better able to grasp the full import of it if she is turned out for Sunday's **2,000 Guineas.**

It is seldom that the **Gwaliors** bid at the Sales, for they breed most of their runners and are interested only in quality. Thus, when there were shouts on their behalf in 1969 for a well - proportioned filly by **Prince Pradeep-Elgin Marbles,** there was an air of expectancy, a feeling that something sensational was about to happen. **And so it did, the filly being knocked down to the princely patrons for the huge amount of Rs. 1,15,000, which was more than her illustrious half-sister, VENUS DE MILO, had fetched.**

But her early performances were not exactly cheering. She won over 1,400 metres in her third attempt last season, finished third in the **Poona City Cup** over the ghats and failed to make the board when heavily supported in the **General Rajendrasinhji Gold Cup.** She rocketed into prominence when outclassing Class IV company over 1,400 metres in her only other outing this season and her subsequent work on the track was what attracted most of the money to her.

That her early performances were not particularly appealing is something that anyone who watches this powerful stable operate will readily understand. The stable is rich and there is no need to rush their horses for early stake money. Their objectives are the Classics and trainer **Major V. M. Lad** plans his campaign with that in view.

Topaz lost her unbeaten status on this track but she went down with colours flying. The **Babbanio-Pleasant Pleasure** filly, with **Khade** in the saddle, made the running and the fact is that she was well clear of all but the winner. Thus, she reproduced the form she had shown in the 2,000 metres **Bangalore Derby. Artistic Value's** fifth in a race which was run in 1 minute, 43 seconds is a clear pointer to her chances when she takes on company of her own class.

Just what does one make of **Royal Way.** On the basis of her last run and her exercises with **Babbanio's Baby** she was considered the goods in the 1,000 metres **Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy (VI Bart.) Gold Cup,** especially as this race was run immediately after **Babbanio's Baby** had made the money in the **Guineas.**

But the **Asopo** or **Young Lochinvar-Royal Allen** filly could not settle down and McGrath had his hands full with her. He got her to get her head into the bridle passing the 400 and she produced such a sparkling finishing effort that though in the seventh position, very many lengths behind the leaders, **Flower Time** and **Heaven's Heaven,** she flashed on the scene to be just two necks behind the winner, Heaven's Heaven. **Obviously, had there been two more strides to go she would have won with ease, clearly indicating that she can win whenever saddled.**

Apart from **Elegance** and **Royal Way** the good performers of the afternoon were **Magyar, Monitor** and **Please,** all winners. Amongst those who were beaten **Sweet One,** on whom **Francis** did not seem to make any effort at all, **Bank On,** who was the fastest moving runner towards the close of the 1,000 metres **Titwillow Plate,** and **Look Out** earned honourable mention and a prominent place in the engagement book.

The biggest race of the immediate future is the **2,000 Guineas,** which is open to colts and fillies and is run over 1,600 metres. The so-called weaker sex get a weight allowance of 1.5 kilos. The impressive victory of **Elegance** creates food for thought. If she is saddled here, she is certain to find a place on the board. The puzzle is whether her stable will prefer her to **Shanti Doot,** who, let's face it, is the better performed, will opt for both, or decide to give her a rest.

Certainly, stable intentions have a big bearing on results, but, I, for one, doubt if Elegance's presence will dislodge **Bright Hanovar** from his position as the favourite. What is more important is I do not think that the **Prince Pradeep-Brigandine** colt will be easily beaten.

R.W.I.T.C. Committee

At the Annual General Meeting of the R.W.I.T.C. Ltd., the following were elected to serve on the Committee for the ensuing year, with the votes each candidate secured:

Mr. R. R. Ruia (252)
H.H. the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior (252)
Mr. R. J. Kolah (251)
Mr. D. F. Karaka (239)
Maharaj Narpat Singh (239)
Mr. R. N. Kanga (234)
Mr. A. A. Jasdenvala (232)
Mr. R. M. Goculdas (227)
Mr. Gangaram Joshi (216)

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The selected candidate will be on probation for a period of one year with effect from the date of appointment. The probationary period will be considered as service on a temporary basis and will be liable to termination without notice. The probationary period may be waived in the case of candidates with good qualifications and/or experience.

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(c) Provident Fund:

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(d) Gratuity:

One month's basic wage for every year of service upto 15 months maximum. Eligibility period—10 years.

(e) Privilege Leave:

One month per year.

(f) House Allowance:

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(g) Car Allowance:

Rs. 400 per month or maintenance of the Assistant Official's car by the Club upto a limit of Rs. 6,000 per annum.

(h) Health Insurance Scheme:

The Assistant Official and his wife and children will be covered by the Health Insurance Scheme in force.

(i) Pension:

As per scheme in force.

(j) Leave Fare Concession:

Air fare or first class air conditioned return fare for the Assistant Official and his wife to any destination in India.

There is no accommodation provided with the post. The candidate will have to make his own arrangements for accommodation.

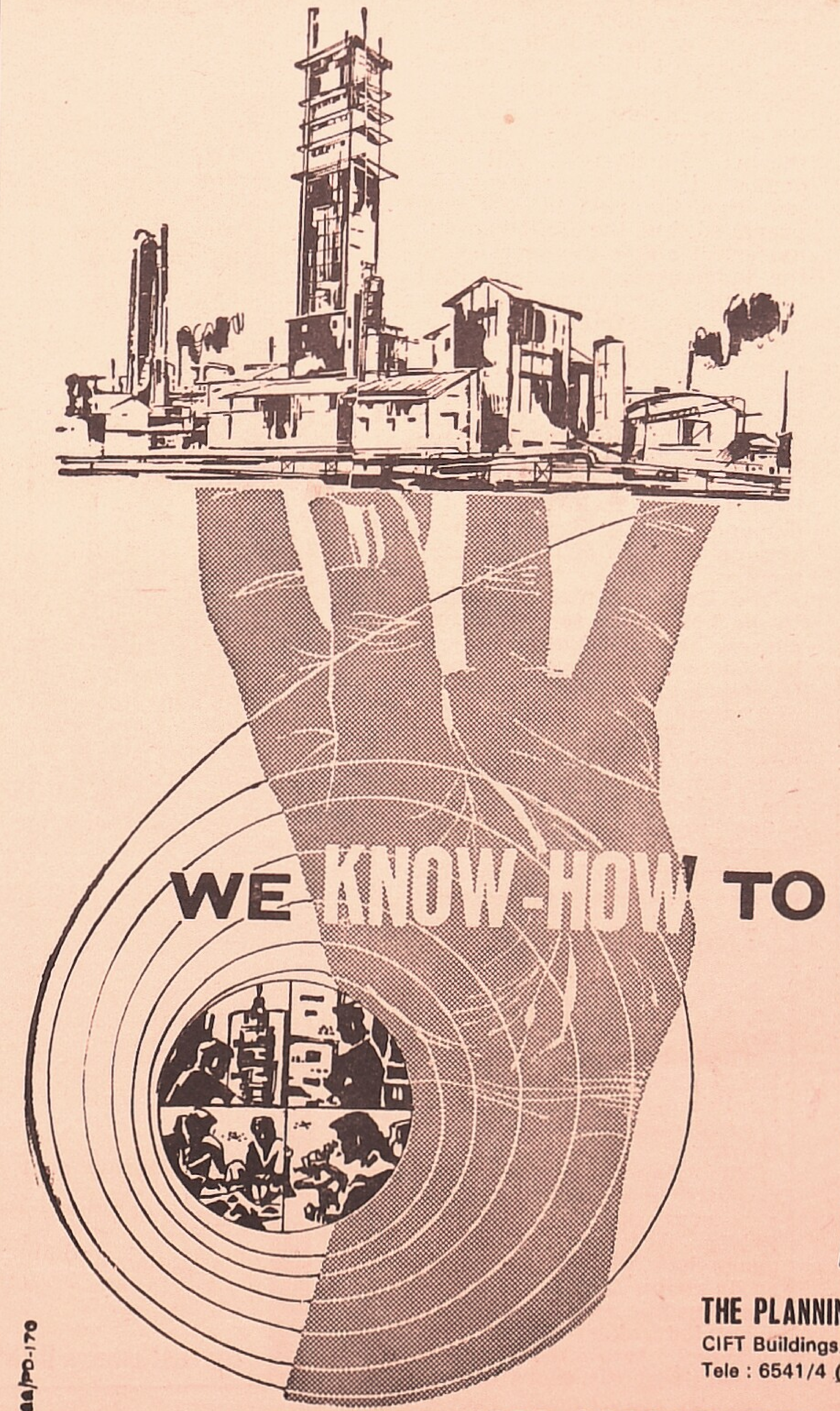
Applications accompanied by a photograph should be sent to the undersigned so as to reach him on or before 18th January 1971. The candidate must give full details and information, especially if he is in service or has been in service in the past with any institution, firm or racing club and the reasons for having left such service if such is the case.

The Registered Office of the Club shall be situated at **Mahalaxmi Race Course, Post Tulsiwadi, Bombay-34** from 1st November in every year to 30th April in the next following year and at **6 Burnett Road, Poona-1,** from 1st May to 31st October in every year.

If called for an interview, the applicant will have to come to Bombay or Poona wherever the registered office of the Royal Western India Turf Club Limited is stationed **at his own expense.**

N. K. PUDUMJEE,
Secretary,

ROYAL WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB LIMITED.



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CALCUTTA

During the recent Bangla Bandh in Calcutta (on December 8), parts of the city remained relatively calm while tension gripped other well-known "hotbeds" of extremist activity, as seen from the pics. above. At left, boys enjoy a game of cricket on a deserted tram track, while at right, in Central Calcutta, a policeman's figure makes a sharp, lonely outline against the smoke of bombs hurled by extremists.

Severity Of Supreme Court's Judgment On Privy Purses Leaves Leftists Stunned

By Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court's judgment on the Privy Purses case did not come as a surprise to MRS. GANDHI and her Leftist supporters; they had correctly anticipated it. However, what they had not expected and what came as a rude shock to them, was the severity of the verdict.

Chief Justice M. HIDAYATULLAH's remarks like "Grand Moghul who could give subedarships to his generals as he pleased" and "Midnight order" further demoralised them.

The first indication of their demoralisation and frustration was witnessed in Parliament where the Pinks and Reds openly criticized the highest court in the land and expressed dissatisfaction with it. Though Mrs. Gandhi restrained her feelings in the Lok Sabha, she let them loose in the Rajya Sabha the next day (December 16). "I had warned you of the obstacles", she said, and added "Now we shall see how we can remove them".

The Prime Minister also commented on Hidayatullah's observation on the "Midnight order". She said "the court may have some fixed hours during which it functions, but I want to tell the House this Government functions day and night".

Hysterical

The Supreme Court's ruling that the Privy Purses constitute private property which is a Fundamental Right has hurt Mrs. Gandhi's Leftist supporters the most. This has also created some difficulty in deleting those clauses in the Constitution which guarantee Privy Purses to the Princes. According to a previous ruling of the Supreme Court, Parliament can amend or delete only those clauses of the Constitution which have no bearing on the citizen's Fundamental Rights.

This correspondent was present in the court room when Hidayatullah delivered his judgement. It was heard in pin-drop silence although the court was overcrowded. Among the princes, only the **Maharaja of Bikaner** was present. One could see him sitting confidently and smiling. **V. K. Krishna Menon** was sitting not very far from him. He appeared nervous and annoyed. He was fidgety and restless. The Former Attorney-General, **Motilal Setalvad** looked calm and composed.

As soon as Hidayatullah finished reading the operative part of this judgement, a police officer in uniform standing very close to this correspondent attempted to rush out of the court room. He was heard saying, "I must inform the Prime Minister's house immediately".

Within minutes, the news of the Supreme Court's verdict reached Parliament. All the democratic parties were jubilant that the rule of law had prevailed, **but the Leftists went hysterical about the severity of the judgement.** They demanded that the Government should immediately reintroduce the Privy Purses Abolition Bill, if possible, in the afternoon of that same day. **Ram Subhag Singh,** on the other hand, demanded the Government's resignation. Swatantra's **N. G. Ranga** and Jana Sangh's **Atal Behari Vajapayee** supported his demand, adding that it was a slap on the face of the Government.

The Prime Minister rushed to the Lok Sabha to control and console her colleagues. She said her Government was committed to abolish the Privy Purses and would not shirk its responsibility. Her restrained statement had the desired effect, but next day in the Rajya Sabha, she could not keep up the dignified performance. She also dropped a broad hint that the Constitution would be changed if it came in the way of abolition of the Privy Purses.

Ever since the judgement, Mrs. Gandhi has held closed-door consultations with her advisors. She has had two long discussions with **D. P. Mishra,** one Cabinet meeting and several sessions with CPI leaders. **The capital is thick with rumours that Parliament's dissolution is a certainty. It may come on December 22 or December 28. PRESIDENT GIRI returned to Delhi on December 21. Another lobbby report says that Mrs. Gandhi will dissolve Parliament after a special session of Parliament in January. But all this is speculation.**

However, the atmosphere here is politically tense and all eyes are on the Prime Minister's house, the centre of all decision-making now. **Meanwhile, MPs are being pressed by shopkeepers to clear their debts.** Those MPs who had been allotted new houses are reluctant to shift because of the impending threat of a mid-term poll.

Dogri Dictionary

NEW DELHI: Dogri will be the first sub-language to have its dictionary.

There will be a Dogri-Hindi dictionary and a Dogri-English dictionary. The first is expected to be printed shortly.

The Dogri language has recently been recognised as a literary language by the Sahitya Academy. The language had adopted Devnagri as its script. The Dogri speaking people are to make a concerted effort to get this included into the eighth Schedule of the Constitution.

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